

The University of Manchester

Science & Engineering Education Research and Innovation Hub



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Progression in LIGHT & SOUND Year 1-9 Key for use Fair & comparative testing Research using secondary sources Identifying, classifying & grouping Pattern seeking Observing over time

Year group	English National Curriculum statement	Child led enquiry opportunities (write as questions)	Maths opportunities	Story opportunities	Resources links	Enquiry type (highlight)	Working scientifically links (highlight)
Year 1							
Year 2							
Year 3	Light 1. Recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light notice that light is reflected from surfaces 2. Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes 3. Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a	Which is the best material for a mirror? Which material is best for sunglasses? Do cats' eyes light up in the dark? - lead on to luminous and non luminous objects? Why can we see fireworks better in the dark?	Data handling Data measuring	Snow white Barnaby bear Cat story The Firework- maker's daughter	Variety of materials Data recorders, book, sunglasses frame Marbles as models for cats eyes.	Fair & comparative testing Research using secondary sources Identifying, classifying & grouping Pattern seeking Observing	 asking relevant questions asking relevant questions using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative & fair tests making systematic and careful observations &, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers & classes
	light source is blocked by a solid object 4. Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.	How do the size of a shadow change over a day?	Use of a protractor, telling time.		Protractor, pencil, paper plate, compass	over time	 gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions recording findings using

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Year 4	 Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating 	 Cup & string - pupils to ask their own enquiry question. 	Length of string (ruler use)	Made up story about being stuck on a desert island and need to	cups, string, scissors, rulers	Fair & comparative testing	simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, & tables
	 Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear Find patterns between the 	2. Can you make a guitar that plays 4 different pitch sounds?	Length of elastic band related to pitch.	contact another island. Horrid Henry rocks story	Junk, elastic bandsRecent and secondary sourcesAir horn, decibel meterIdentifying, classifying & groupingPattern seekingPattern seeking	secondary sources	 reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral & written explanations, displays or presentations of results & conclusions using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements & raise further questions identifying differences, similarities or changes
	pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it 4. Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it	distance from source on the volume/amplitude of a sound?	collector			grouping Pattern seeking Observing over time	
	5. Recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.						 related to simple scientific ideas and processes using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.

Year 5							planning different types of
Year 5 Year 6	 Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them. 	I. How can a submarine see where it is going?2. Why do we see the moon?3. What is the best position for a car rear- view mirror?4. How can I use shadows to identify aeroplanes?4. How does the position of a light source affect the size of a shadow?	Angles - use of a protractor Converting units of measure	Submarine story WW2 story	Mirrors, light beams. Mirrors, periscope templates, cereal boxes. Mirrors, Lollipop sticks, ruler, protractor. Card, plane templates. Lamp, object, measuring stick.	Fair & comparative testing Research using secondary sources Identifying, classifying & grouping Pattern seeking Observing over time	 planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations identifying scientific evidence that has been
							ideas or arguments.

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Key Stage 3	 <u>Waves</u> Sound waves 1. frequencies of sound waves, measured in hertz (Hz); echoes, reflection and absorption of sound 2. sound needs a medium to travel, the speed of sound in air, in water, in solids 3. sound produced by vibrations of objects, in loud speakers, detected by their effects on microphone 	How can I use echoes to work out the speed of sound? What materials make the best ear defenders?	Using speed = distance/time calculations Measuring materials	Alien & star wars - sound travelling in a vacuum?	Stop watches, wood, calculators cups, card, assortment of materials	Fair & comparative testing Research using secondary sources Identifying, classifying & grouping Pattern seeking	 Scientific attitudes pay attention to objectivity and concern for accuracy, precision, repeatability and reproducibility understand that scientific methods and theories develop as earlier explanations are modified to take account of new evidence and ideas, together with the
	 diaphragm and the ear drum; sound waves are longitudinal auditory range of humans and animals. Light waves the similarities and differences between light waves and waves in matter light waves travelling through a vacuum; speed of 	What is the range of human hearing?	Data collection, drawing graphs		signal generator (online)	Observing over time	 importance of publishing results and peer review evaluate risks. Experimental skills and investigations ask questions and develop a line of enquiry based on observations of the real world, alongside prior knowledge and experience make predictions using
	light 7. the transmission of light through materials: absorption, diffuse scattering and specular reflection at a surface 8. use of ray model to explain imaging in mirrors, the pinhole camera, the refraction of light and action of convex lens in focusing (qualitative); the human eye	Does the angle of incidence affect the angle of reflection? Does the angle of incidence affect the angle of refraction? How can you make a	Data collection, measuring angles	Story of placing mirrors - Medusa pencil in a cup of water, kingfisher. Loads!	Plane mirrors, ray boxes, power packs, protractors. prisms, ray boxes, power pack		 scientific knowledge and understanding select, plan and carry out the most appropriate types of scientific enquiries to test predictions, including identifying independent, dependent and control variables, where appropriate use appropriate
I	9. light transferring energy	rainbow?			prisms, ray boxes,		techniques, apparatus,

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from source to absorber		power pack	and materials during
leading to chemical and			fieldwork and laboratory
electrical effects; photo-			work, paying attention to
sensitive material in the			health and safety
retina and in cameras			 make and record
10. colours and the			observations and
different frequencies of			measurements using a
light, white light and prisms			range of methods for
(qualitative only);			different investigations;
differential colour effects in			and evaluate the reliability
absorption and diffuse			of methods and suggest
reflection			possible improvements
			 apply sampling
			techniques.
			Analysis and evaluation
			apply mathematical
			concepts and calculate
			results
			 present observations and
			data using appropriate
			methods, including tables
			and graphs
			 interpret observations and
			data, including identifying
			patterns and using
			observations,
			measurements and data
			to draw conclusions
			 present reasoned
			explanations, including
			explaining data in relation
			to predictions and
			hypotheses
			 evaluate data, showing
			awareness of potential
			sources of random and
			systematic error
			 identify further questions

		arising from their results.
		Measurement
		 understand and use SI
		units and IUPAC chemical
		nomenclature
		 use and derive simple
		equations and carry out
		appropriate calculations
		 undertake basic data
		analysis including simple
		statistical techniques.