

## Primary science enquiry outdoors

Learning outdoors is a key part of primary science. The Teacher Assessment in Primary Science (TAPS) project has created a wide range of activities to support Working Scientifically. Many of these can take place outside and examples are listed below, with hyperlinks directly to the TAPS plan.

	Possible skills focus	Examples of science learning which can be done outdoors	Examples of science learning about the outdoors
<b>Age 4-7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask questions</li> <li>- Perform simple tests</li> <li>- Observe closely</li> <li>- Gather and record data to answer Qs</li> <li>- Identify and classify</li> </ul>	<p>How could we make the best shelter? <a href="#">Incy spider shelter</a> R</p> <p>What happens to the ice? <a href="#">Frozen balloons</a> R</p> <p>Which materials can we see light through? <a href="#">Transparency</a> Y1</p> <p>Which objects do we think will float/sink? <a href="#">Float &amp; sink</a> Y1</p> <p>Which material made the best boat? <a href="#">Boat materials</a> Y2</p> <p>How do we get the character out of the ice? <a href="#">Ice escape</a> Y2</p> <p>What materials can we find? <a href="#">Materials hunt</a> Y2</p> <p>How do we test which material is the most waterproof? <a href="#">Waterproof</a> Y2</p>	<p>How can we sort the things we have found? <a href="#">Scavenger sort</a> R</p> <p>Do all leaves look the same? <a href="#">Leaf look</a> Y1</p> <p>What parts does this plant have? <a href="#">Plant structure</a> Y1</p> <p>What colours/shades can we find? <a href="#">Shades of colour</a> Y1</p> <p>What season is it now? <a href="#">Seasonal change</a> Y1</p> <p>What does a plant need to keep healthy? <a href="#">Plant growth</a> Y2</p> <p>What living things can we find nearby? <a href="#">Nature spotters</a> Y2</p> <p>Is this alive? Has this ever been alive? <a href="#">Living &amp; non-living</a> Y2</p> <p>How many daisies are in each area? <a href="#">Daisy footprints</a> Y2</p> <p>Where do woodlice live? <a href="#">Woodlice habitats</a> Y2</p>
<b>Age 7-11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Plan different types of enquiry to answer Qs</li> <li>- Take measurements</li> <li>- Gather, record and classify data</li> <li>- Report findings</li> <li>- Use results to draw simple conclusions</li> <li>- Evaluate degree of trust in results</li> </ul>	<p>Which kind of materials make shadows? <a href="#">Making shadows</a> Y3</p> <p>Which rock is the most hard-wearing? <a href="#">Rocks report</a> Y3</p> <p>How can we package the egg? <a href="#">Egg drop</a> Y3</p> <p>Which area is hottest/coldest? Adapt <a href="#">Measuring temp</a> Y4</p> <p>How do we find out the best conditions for drying? <a href="#">Drying</a> Y4</p> <p>Which is the best material for the job? Adapt <a href="#">Champion tapes</a> Y5</p> <p>How can we compare our planes? <a href="#">Paper planes</a> Y5</p> <p>How far can we make a spinner travel? <a href="#">Spinners</a> Y5 (link to seed dispersal)</p>	<p>How much water do plants need? <a href="#">Measuring plants</a> Y3</p> <p>How can we help our local environment? <a href="#">Eco action</a> Y3</p> <p>What living things can we find? <a href="#">Local survey</a> Y4</p> <p>Making a classification key for our area, e.g. <a href="#">Outdoor keys</a> Y6</p> <p>Plus:</p> <p>Woodland Trust <a href="#">spotter sheets and activities</a></p> <p>Growing plants <a href="#">website guide</a> for each month of the year</p> <p>Dr Katherine Forsey's detailed plans for pond/bush/minibeast/rock pool <a href="#">hunts</a></p>

The full set of enquiry lesson plans can be found under the 'Focused Assessment plans' tab: <https://pstt.org.uk/resources/curriculum-materials/assessment>  
 The majority of plans can be adapted for any age group or situation, so the above are only suggestions.