



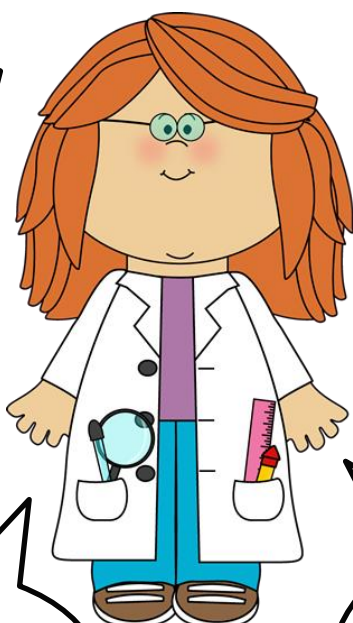
Sandfield Close Primary School



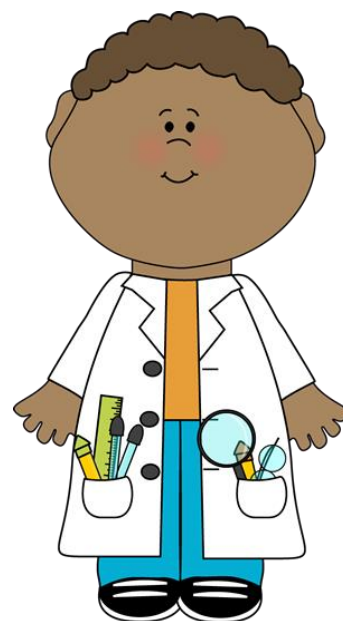
Science at Home



We try to explain what is happening and why.



We ask relevant questions, lots of questions and try and find out the answers.



We make predictions.

We can use evidence to answer questions.

We identify, classify and group things.

We observe things over time.

We are excited and curious about natural phenomena.

We need to talk so we can practise our new vocabulary.

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope your child enjoys taking part in science lessons. This year we have been really lucky to have a special Space Science Week in November and we are still following Tim Peake in the International Space Station. Next term, we will plant 'rocket' seeds that have been into space and compare them with seeds that haven't.

We are excited that after many years of hard work we achieved our Eco School's Green Flag and thanks to Jody and her brilliant catering team have achieved our bronze Food for Life award – one of the first schools in the city to do this.

Our recycling and conservation project 'have you heard about our herd? #500recycledelephants, to highlight recycling and endangered animals, has been really successful and there is an exciting future for them.

We want all Sandfield children to be curious about the world around them and ask questions; why and how? To carry on the learning at home, we have put together a few activities that you can try, using easy-to-find equipment. If your child wants to bring their findings to school we are sure we will find somewhere to display them. If you're interested in taking part in more Science activities, check the listings on the back for some information on local events.

So have fun, and remember....

In Science we...



Mini-beast Hunt

You will need:

- An outdoor space
- Paper & pencils to record your findings
- Clipboard, or something to lean on
- (Optional) camera or phone to take pictures
- (Optional) magnifying glass to take a closer look



What to do:

Choose somewhere to go and visit. Maybe a local park or woodland, or your own garden.

Look out for minibeasts under large stones and logs, in the grass, on trees and in small, sheltered spaces. Make a notes on what you find – you could draw pictures, write a list or make a tally chart.

Questions to ask:

- Which creepy-crawly can you find most of?
- How do you think your results would be different if you looked in different kinds of weather?
- What kind of habitats contain the most small creatures?
- How do you think your results would be different if you looked in a different environment, e.g. at the beach, in the countryside, in a hot country?



Find out more!

Want to encourage more wildlife into your garden? Visit the RSPB website to find out more about giving nature a home. Type the link below into your browser, or scan the QR code to get there.

ww2.rspb.org.uk/makeahomeforwildlife/



Fairtrade banana bread

This is an easy recipe that gives perfect results every time. Be sure to use overripe bananas and the right sized tin.

Preparation time less than 30 mins

Cooking time 1 to 2 hours

Serves 8

Ingredients

- 225g/ 8oz [self-raising flour](#)
- 100g/ 4oz [butter](#)
- 150g/ 5oz [caster sugar](#)
- 450g/ 1lb Fairtrade [bananas](#) (the softer the better), peeled and mashed
- ½ tsp [salt](#)
- 2 [eggs](#)
- 175g/ 6oz mixed [dried fruit](#)



Method

1. Pre-heat the oven to 180C/ 350F/ Gas 4.
2. Mix all the of the ingredients except the dried fruit together. You can do this in a food processor or by hand in a mixing bowl.
3. When the ingredients are all thoroughly combined, fold in the dried fruit.
4. Spoon the batter mixture into a 1kg/ 2lb non-stick loaf tin, spread it out evenly and bake it for one and a half hours.
5. When the banana bread has risen, golden-brown on top and cooked through, remove it from the oven and set aside to cool on a wire rack. Slice before serving.

You could try adding fairtrade chocolate chips or some fairtrade honey instead of all of the sugar.



Make Honeycomb Toffee

WARNING – This is great – but very hot

An Adult is needed!

You will need:

- 4 desert spoons granulated sugar
- 2 desert spoons golden syrup
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- Saucepan



What to do:

Measure the sugar and syrup into a pan and stir over a medium heat. What can you see happening to the sugar? When it has completely dissolved, bring the mixture to a boil and let it bubble until the mixture turns dark brown. Why do you think the colour has changed? Add the bicarbonate of soda and watch what happens to the mixture. Pour into a baking tray and allow to cool. Watch what happens to the mixture as it cools down.

Questions to ask:

- What other sweets can you make by altering the properties of sugar? (Peppermint creams are a good one to try!)

Find out more!

Want to carry out some more edible Science? Visit Lemonade Learning for a list of Science-related recipes at the link below, or scan the QR code for a faster way to get there

<http://www.llemonade.com/ediblescience.html>



STEM Paper Plane Challenge

You will need:

- Paper
- Sticky tape
- Pennies, or other small weights (dry pasta shapes or beads would work)

What to do:

Mark a line on the ground, with chalk, tape or a stick, then measure ten feet (approx. 3 metres) and mark another line – this is your target line.

Next make a paper aeroplane and have a trial run – can it get all the way to the target line? (There are lots of videos on YouTube you can look at if you're not sure how to fold a paper plane)

Now the challenge begins! See how many pennies your plane can carry and still cross the target line (you'll probably need to tape them on).

Questions to ask:

- Does it matter whereabouts on your plane you put the pennies?
- Does it matter what kind of paper you use?
- Does it matter what size your paper is?

Want more ideas?

Visit *Funology* for more ideas of cool STEM activities to try at home. There are hundreds of activities, games, facts and jokes to look get stuck in to!

<http://www.funology.com/>



Milky Colours

You will need

A flat tray (like a baking tray)

Food colouring (at least 3 different colours)

Whole milk – low fat milk will not work for this experiment

Liquid soap - used for washing dishes

Cocktail stick



What to do

Carefully, pour the milk into the tray so that it just covers the bottom

Add about 6-8 drops of different coloured food colouring onto the milk in different spots

Add a small bit of washing up liquid to the end of the cocktail stick. Put the washing up liquid end into the milk and watch the show. You could move the cocktail stick to another area.

To clean up, simply pour the coloured milk down the drain, don't drink it!

How does it work?

Why milk and liquid soap? The main job of soap is to find fat and break it down. Usually the fat is on dishes from the food we eat, but fat is also in whole milk. When you drop the liquid soap onto the tray, it tries to break down the fat in the milk. While it is doing that, it causes the colours to scatter and mix creating a very colorful display. After watching for a few minutes try moving the colours gently with a cocktail stick.

MAKE IT AN EXPERIMENT

The project above is a DEMONSTRATION.

*To make it a **true experiment**, you can try to answer these questions:*

1. What liquid dish soap works the best?

2. Does the shape of the tray affect the reaction?



Local Events

Tree of life collage

Wednesday 23 – Wednesday 30 March 11am – 3pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Join us to celebrate springtime and Easter by adding to our giant Tree of Life collage. Visitors and community groups are welcome to help our beautiful display blossom by creating leaves, fruits and flowers. Drop-in, free event.

Children's springtime trail

Friday 25 March – Sunday 10 April at **New Walk Museum & Art Gallery**

Collect your free trail sheet and track down a selection of spring themed objects waiting to be discovered from the gallery collections. Drop in, free event.

Easter eggscapades

Friday 25 March – Sunday 10 April 11.30am – 3.30pm at **Jewry Wall Museum**

Enjoy an eggstravaganza of exploring the ancient objects and bath house ruins. Discover the significance of the Easter period in ancient times. Can you complete the hunt and earn your chocolate-based egg prize? Drop-in activity running daily throughout the Easter holidays. £1.50 per person.

Feed the bugs!

Saturday 26 March 11am – 12noon at **New Walk Museum & Art Gallery**

Get up close and personal with our live Wild Space exhibits. You can help with feeding, learn some facts and even handle some of our insects. Drop in, free event.

Bradgate Park <http://www.bradgatepark.org/>

Small car parking fee. But cycle, scoot or walk through the park looking for wildlife and signs of Spring.

Free ramble with a ranger on 9th April

Watermead Country Park

Print a list of birds from their website below and go for a walk, with an adult. What can you see?

<http://www.leicester.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/parks-and-open-spaces/our-parks/watermead-country-park-south>

National Space Centre

Adults £14 Children £11 car parking £3. Buy in advance and your ticket is valid for a year!

Twycross Zoo

Adults £17.95 Children (3-16) £12.95

Don't forget to bring in your photos and work into school to show us what you've been up to!