

Wider reading in SCIENCE

Reading is an essential skill in the study of Science, be this the activity of learning the fundamentals of the taught curriculum or reading for pleasure. Many scientists attribute their interest in the subject at least in part to the science books they read recreationally when young. It is perhaps surprising then that the active promotion of science reading for pleasure seldom features among the stated aims and objectives of secondary science programmes. We have tried to address this deficit in numerous ways.

We encourage reading in every lesson and spend considerable efforts building pupils confidence with tier 2 and 3 language. We discuss the etymological basis of many of the words used in Science and we build in considerable opportunities to read during lessons.

Each year a wide variety of engaging science books are published, many of which have the power not only to extend knowledge but also to excite the interest and imagination of children and young people. Encouraging pupils to engage with these texts may develop a lifelong reading habit. Our school has a well-stocked library and interesting popular Science books are recommended.

In the classroom pupils will read a range of texts to develop their understanding. These include science textbooks, scientific reports, newspaper articles, materials from scientific websites.

Below are some examples of key reading materials that are used in KS3 and KS4 Science.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 7	Class reading of the laboratory rules. Research using website: 'Cell animations and Education'.	Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading , as part of reading week in Science.	Savannah food web activity, using information to construct a food web. Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading , as part of reading activity in Science.
Year 8	Research using NHS website on deficiency diseases. BBC Climate change article for information . Homework task: Rock types, used for information .	Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading , as part of reading week in Science. Comprehension activity on elements, mixtures and compounds	'The Plague at Eyam', a play script . Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading , as part of reading activity in Science.
Year 9	Oxford publications, 'The Extinction of dinosaur theories', article used for guided reading . 'Dairy Sire' directory used for information . 'The Discovery of DNA' information timeline card sort. Homework task: Writing chemical word equations from information .	Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading , as part of reading week in Science. Comprehension activity , 'Bev and Kev's Big Night Out'. Research using BBC Bitesize on Energy resources. Comprehension activity , 'Human Genome Project'.	Evidence based information : 'Did Man Land on the Moon, or was it faked?'. This activity is then followed by a debate . Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading , as part of reading activity in Science.

Year 10	<p>Information on a car chase that is used to calculate acceleration and draw motion graphs.</p> <p>Research on stem cells and the diseases they treat.</p> <p>Comprehension on stem cells.</p>	<p>Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading, as part of reading week in Science.</p> <p>Gene mutation, guided reading activity.</p>	<p>Research using NHS website on causes, symptoms and treatments of communicable diseases.</p> <p>Information on the life cycle assessment of paper and plastic bags.</p> <p>Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading, as part of reading activity in Science.</p> <p>Information about a child's morning where the pupils then identify parts of EM spectrum.</p>
Year 11	<p>Research on plants that are used for medicines using a variety of scientific websites.</p>	<p>Information timeline on the Evolution of the Earth's atmosphere.</p>	<p>Articles from BBC Science Focus magazines used for guided reading, as part of reading activity in Science.</p>

We also have a range of books in the library that we recommend for pupils to read to foster further interest and curiosity in Science:



