

Overview of TAPS plans for Focused Assessment of Working Scientifically

(Any focus can be chosen for open-ended enquiries, these are only suggestions)

	Plan		Do			Review	
	Ask Qs and plan enquiry	Set up enquiry	Observe + Measure	Record	Interpret + Report	Evaluate	
KS1 (age 5-7) <i>Develop close obs</i>	Ask simple Qs and recognise that they can be answered in different ways*.	Perform simple tests.	Observe closely, using simple equipment.	Gather and record data to help in answering questions.	Identify and classify. <i>Use appropriate scientific language to communicate ideas.</i>	Use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions.	
Y1 TAPS plans	Materials: reflection tests	Materials: floating and sinking	Plants: structure	Seasons: seasonal change	Animals inc Humans: animal classification	Animals inc Humans: body parts	
Y2 TAPS plans	Materials: waterproof	Materials: rocket mice	Plants: compare growth	Living things: woodlice habitats	Living things: nature spotters	Animals inc Humans: handspans	
Lower KS2 (age 7-9) <i>Develop systematic approach</i>	Ask relevant questions and use different types* of scientific enquiries to answer them.	Set up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests.	Make systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, take accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers.	Gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions. Record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables.	Report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions. Identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes.	Use results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions. Use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.	
Y3 TAPS plans	Animals inc Humans: investigating skeletons	Forces: shoe grip Forces: strongest magnet	Plants: measuring plants	Light: making shadows Forces: cars down ramps	Rocks: rock reports	Plants: function of stem Forces: balloon rockets	
Y4 TAPS plans	Sound: investigating pitch	Materials: drying materials	Materials: measure temperature	Living things: local survey	Electricity: conductors Sound: string telephones	Animals inc Humans: teeth (eggs) in liquids	
Upper KS2 (age 9-11) <i>Develop independence</i>	Plan different types* of scientific enquiries to answer <i>their own questions</i> , including recognising and controlling variables where necessary.	Use test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests.	Take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate	Record data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs.	Report and present findings from enquiries, inc conclusions and causal relationships, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations, <i>using appropriate scientific language.</i>	Explain degree of trust in results. Identify <i>and evaluate</i> scientific evidence (<i>their own and others'</i>) that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.	
Y5 TAPS plans	Materials: dissolving Materials: nappy absorbency	Materials: insulation layers	Animals inc Human: growth survey Forces: spinners	Materials: sugar cubes Space: craters	Materials: champion tapes Living things: life cycle research	Forces: aquadynamics	
Y6 TAPS plans	Electricity: bulb brightness	Animals inc Humans: heart rate	Light: investigating shadows	Living things: outdoor keys	Living things: invertebrate research	Evolution: fossil habitats Evolution: egg strength	

***Types of enquiry including: observing changes over time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying, comparative and fair tests, using secondary sources.**

(English 2013 National Curriculum statements, additions from Interim Teacher Assessment framework 2016-7)