

Science Week 2021

Innovation for the future

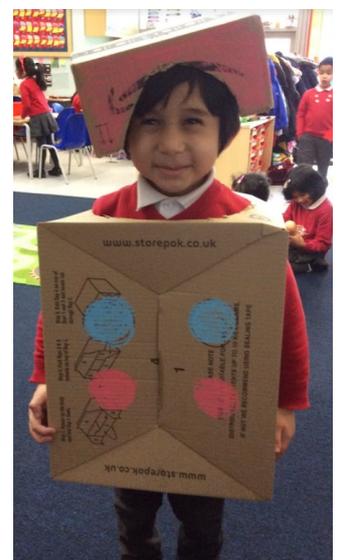
Science week is an annual event in Vicarage Primary School which encourages children to think about how the sciences, technology, engineering and maths relate to our everyday lives — whilst having fun. The theme this year was innovation for the future. This gave children the opportunity to find out about scientific discoveries and inventions that help us in our everyday lives, and consider what future innovations might look like. Teachers planned a week filled with exciting science activities that culminated in class science fairs.

EYFS

In EYFS children observed, identified and named animals and classified them in different ways, i.e. if they were farm or wild animals and whether they had wings. They matched animals and their young and planted seeds, observed changes and found out how to care for them. Children were thrilled to go on a mini-beast hunt in the school garden.



Children successfully worked scientifically by making predictions, observing, classifying, using simple equipment safely and talking about what they saw. They experienced blowing bubbles, creating shadows with torches, explored ramps and made their own inventions using different materials. Lots of fun was had by all!

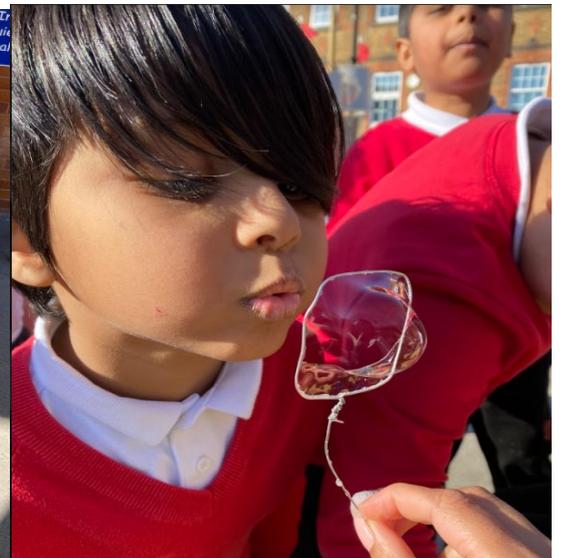


Year 1



During British Science Week Year 1 had a visit from two inspirational people who work in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). We spoke to Jamil from Accenture and Olga from Google who shared their experiences about working in those two prestigious and innovative companies. Jamil is a software developer and Olga is a software engineer. Our visitors connected with us online and answered questions we prepared for them. It is never too early for a career advice!

Scientists ask and answer questions in their work. Year 1 focussed upon this aspect of scientific enquiry. They investigated the properties of bubbles by making different shaped bubble blowing wands and testing them to see if they could blow bubbles that were not spheres. They carefully made their wands using thin wire, made predictions and tested them safely to answer their question.



Year 1 also investigated materials and their properties. They tested different materials to find out if they were waterproof or not. They made predictions based upon their knowledge of materials and completed a comparative test to answer the key question.



Year 2



Year 2 were amazed to see the different colours which are used in felt tip pens by exploring chromatography. They made close observations and described what they saw.

Year 2 learnt about volcanoes and at volcanic eruptions. Through modelling they gained an understanding about eruptions and were wowed by the chemical reaction.



Children planned a fair test investigating paper aeroplanes made of different material. They learned about aerodynamics and applied this knowledge when deciding how to make an effective paper aeroplane.



Year 3

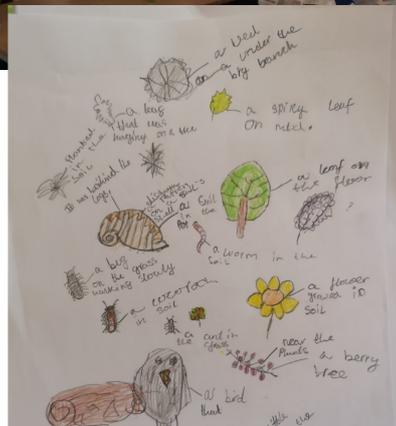
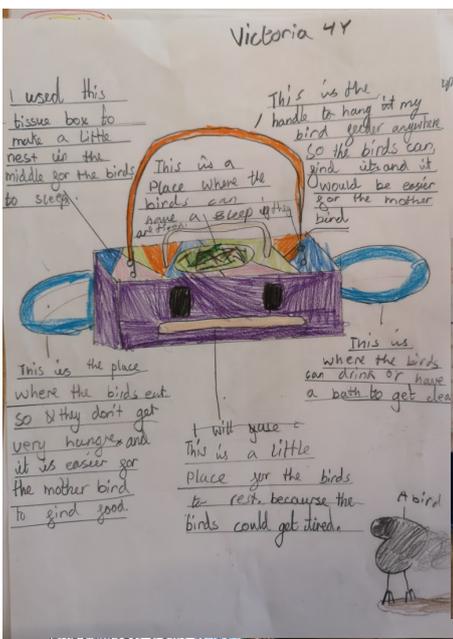


Year 3 took advantage of the fine weather and investigated light and shadows. They made observations over time and compared their shadows at different points in the day. This enabled them to see how the position of the sun in the sky affects the length of our shadow.



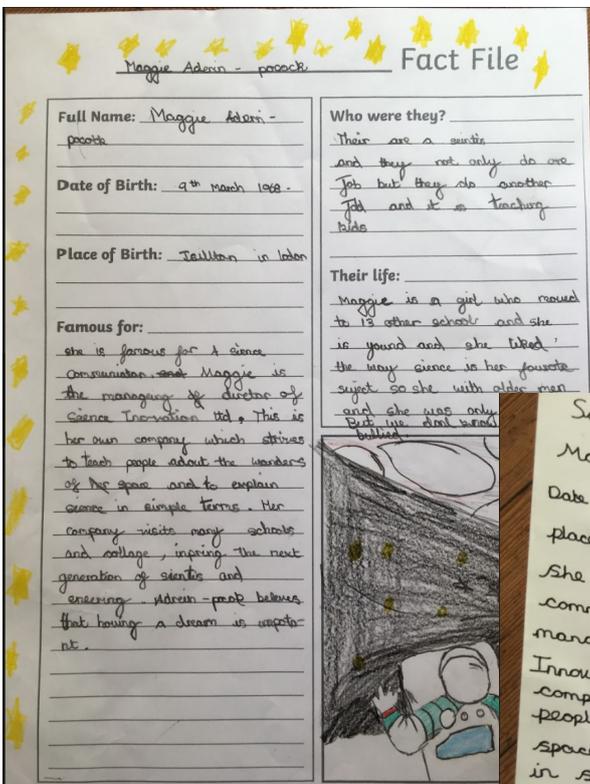
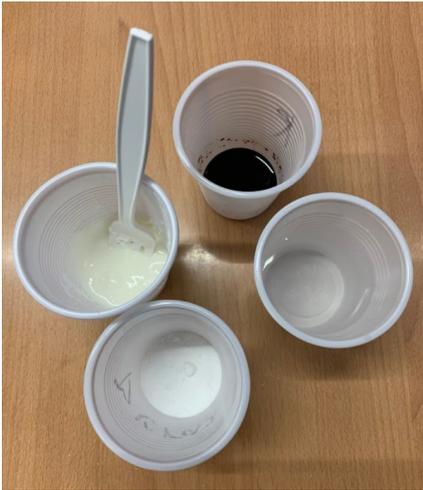
Year 4

Year 4 explored the school garden observing and recording living things and their habitats. The children searched for various living things from plants, invertebrates, to vertebrates. They discussed what they had seen and the different ways we could improve the school garden as a habitat for living things. Using their knowledge of the environment, habitats and food chains, the children designed a bird feeder to encourage and help our welcomed garden visitors.

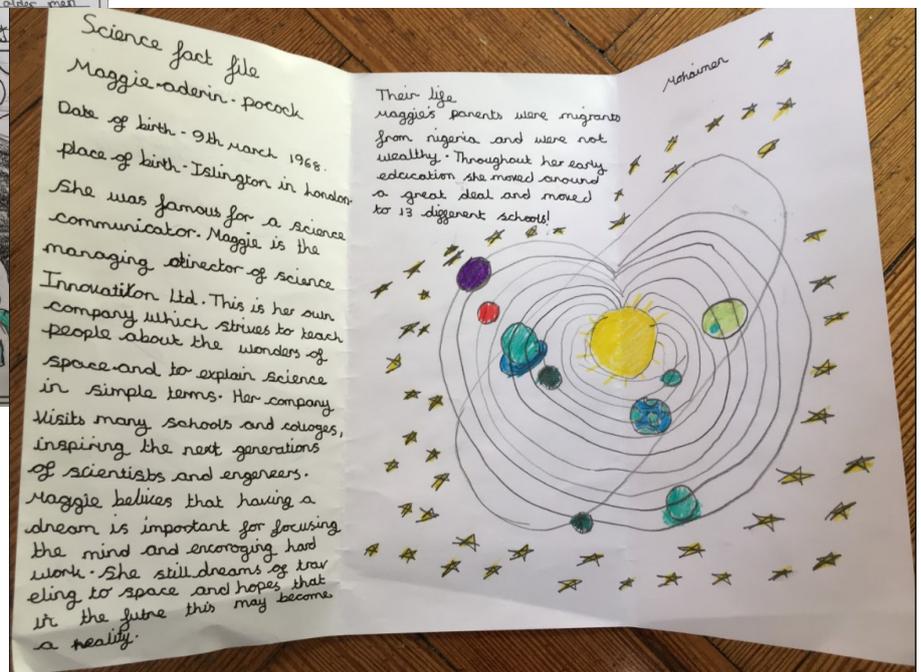


Year 5

In Year 5, we had fun making our own bouncy balls. The instructions were similar to making slime, which a lot of us have made before, but we found we had to include a lot more borax to give our balls some bounce! It was messy but a lot of fun. The highest one of our balls bounced was almost 30cm!



On 18th February 2021 NASA successfully landed the Perseverance Rover on Mars. This was possible due to innovations in technology. As part of our unit about space and the solar system we researched the life and work of Maggie Aderin-Pocock, a British space scientist and science educator. We then presented our findings as a leaflet or fact file to educate others.



The Year 6 presentations for science week gave children the opportunity to model to their peers. Their explanations were clear and children showed great pride in their work. Here are some examples of the fantastic work completed by our budding scientists.

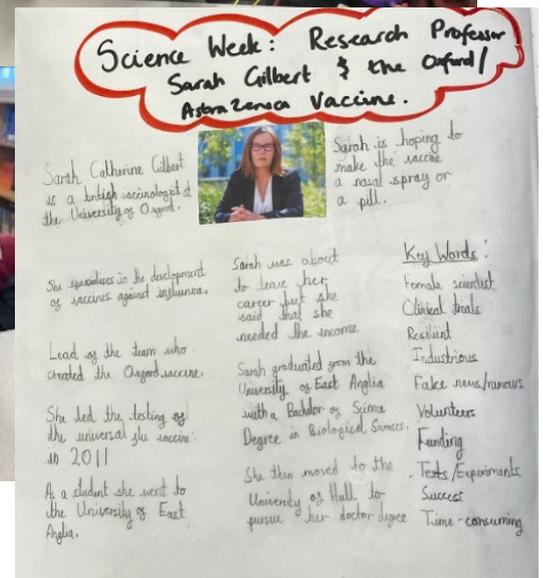


Sri and Zander (6I) thought the world during a pandemic was in dire need of some elephant toothpaste. Here they are with their magic concoction of hydrogen peroxide, washing up liquid, yeast and warm water. The chemical reaction was a great one to witness.

Aakib from 6I blew up a balloon, without actually blowing into the balloon! He used vinegar and bicarbonate soda to create a reaction releasing carbon dioxide. This filled the balloon and voila- an inflated balloon! How cool!



Marie from 6I created her very own lava lamp using coloured water, oil and Alka seltzer. The reaction from the water and Alka seltzer caused bubbles to form and created a cool lava lamp!



As part of our Light unit, we explored refraction using prisms and torches. During Science Week we also investigated cause and effect with a coke and mentos experiment. We explored polymers using balloons and a skewer.



Recently there have been huge advances in medical science, in particular the Covid 19 vaccine. Year 6 found out more about the vaccine and researched Professor Sarah Gilbert, a British vaccinologist who was involved in the creation of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine.