Science Scheme of Work



Year 5 -Forces (Forces)		
Links made with	DT – Mechanisms	
other subjects		
The BIG Question	How do things move?	
The BIG Outcome	Short explanation answering the question	
Science objectives	- explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity	
(link to NC)	acting between the Earth and the falling object	
	- identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between	
	moving surfaces	
	- recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller	
	force to have a greater effect.	
Prior knowledge	Children already know:	
What prior knowledge is	EYFS – Understanding the world - Children know about similarities and differences in	
needed for children to be	relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of	
successful in this unit?	their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one	
	another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain	
	why some things occur and talk about changes	
	Yr 3 - Magnets and Forces	
Future learning	This unit gives prior knowledge to:	
Consider the conceptual	Yr 5 - Forces	
knowledge within a subject that pupils need		
for future learning not		
just the recall of facts but		
the importance of concepts		
Science strands	Related Enquiry Questions	
	Classifying	
	Not relevant	
	Observing over time	
	Not relevant	
	Pattern Seeking	
	Not relevant	
	Comparative testing	
	- Compare friction e.g. trainers or weighted match box pulled with forcemeter,	
	balloon rockets, CD hovercraft, balloon cars.	
	- Compare water resistance e.g. boats in a gutter of water, plasticine in a cylinder	
	of liquid (easier with a more viscous liquid e.g. bubble bath).	
	- Compare air resistance e.g. spinners, parachutes, sailing boats, straw rockets.	
	-Compare levers, pulleys and gears – see illustrations below.	
	Add books to this end until the weight arm lifts	
	Force arm Weight arm	
	Syrup tins	
	Researching	
	- Research Heath Robinson and Rube Goldberg machines. (Children present what	
	they've learned in different ways: create a model, write a song, write a story,	
	create a PPT, etc. This could be cross-curricular with D&T and English biography	
	writing.)	



Vocabulary/	Force, gravity, Earth, air resistance, water resistance, friction, mechanisms, simple
Glossary	machines, levers, pulleys, gears
Knowledge (see italics for knowledge	The knowledge that children will learn and remember:
to remember)	 A force causes an object to start moving, stop moving, speed up, slow down or change direction.
	2. Gravity is a force that acts at a distance. Everything is pulled to the Earth by gravity. This causes unsupported objects to fall.
	3. Air resistance, water resistance and friction are contact forces that act between moving surfaces.
	4. The object may be moving through the air or water, or the air and water may be moving over a stationary object.
	5. A mechanism is a device that allows a small force to be increased to a larger force. The pay back is that it requires a greater movement.
	6. The small force moves a long distance and the resulting large force moves a small distance, e.g. a crowbar or bottle top remover.
	7. Pulleys, levers and gears are all mechanisms, also known as simple machines.
SEND expectations	 A force causes an object to start moving, stop moving, speed up, slow down or change direction.
	Gravity is a force that acts at a distance. Everything is pulled to the Earth by gravity.
	3. Air resistance, water resistance and friction are contact forces that act between moving surfaces.
	4. Pulleys, levers and gears are all mechanisms, also known as simple machines.
Common	Some children may think:
misconceptions	- the heavier the object the faster it falls, because it has more gravity acting on it
	- forces always act in pairs which are equal and opposite
	- smooth surfaces have no friction
	- objects always travel better on smooth surfaces
	-a moving object has a force which is pushing it forwards and it stops when the pushing force wears out
	- a non-moving object has no forces acting on it
	- heavy objects sink and light objects float.

