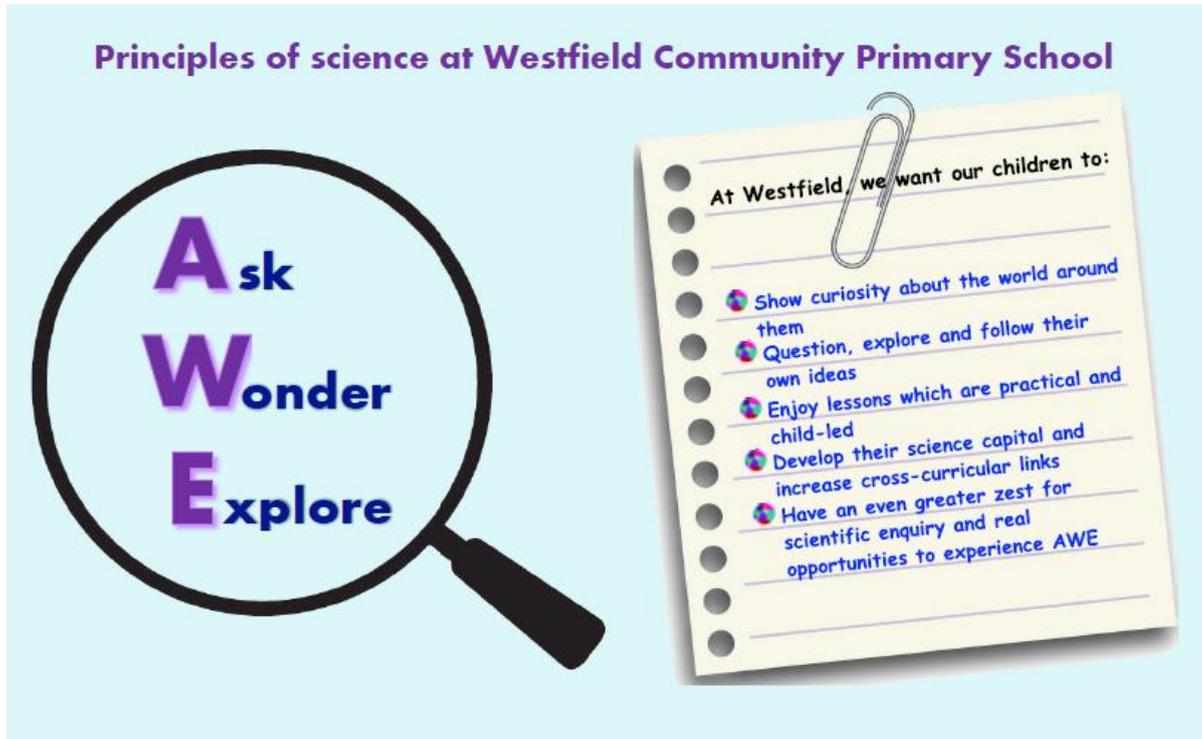




Science

Along with English and maths, Science is one of the main core subjects in primary school.

Children are naturally curious and Science should nurture this curiosity, allowing them to ask questions and develop the skills they need to answer those questions.



At Westfield, all children in Key Stages 1 and 2 enjoy exciting and thought-provoking science lessons where they can learn through being hands-on and finding things out for themselves — the perfect way to understand the world around them.

In EYFS, science is included within the Understanding the World area of learning. As with other learning in Reception, children will mainly learn about science through games and play – which objects float and sink during water play, for example. Activities such as these will help your child to develop important skills such as observation, prediction and critical thinking.

How you can help at home

1. Be interested

Find out their termly topics (each year group's curriculum newsletter is updated termly) and take an interest — find relevant books in the library or bookshop, do some research, brush up your own knowledge about the topic!

2. Take a trip

Take a trip to a science museum, a zoo or an aquarium. These don't necessarily need to be completely related to what they are learning about at school. Any visit can help their curiosity and engagement with science generally.

3. Make it personal

Find out about famous scientists and research unique and exciting inventions up to and including the present day.

4. Get hands-on



Look up fun, practical science experiments you can do at home with everyday objects.

For example:

- Ask 'What happens when you mix food colouring in milk?' Then add washing up liquid and watch what happens.
- Why not try making your own mini exploding volcano? Just add bicarbonate of soda, food colouring, washing up liquid and vinegar. Then stand back and watch the eruption!
- Cooking is also a great opportunity to mix ingredients, add heat and examine changing states.
- Try exploring changing states with ice and water to begin to see those changes that can be reversed and those that can't.
- A real favourite would have to be 'slime' — use water and cornflour (add food colouring too if needed) to explore solids and liquids. Just be prepared to get messy!
- Of course, there are also some wonderful science kits available to buy to push your scientists further – making crystals, rockets and even bouncy balls.

Anything where they can be hands-on and see the science happen in front of their eyes is guaranteed to get them interested.

We believe that Science should be exciting for our children, giving them skills and opportunities to improve their futures.



Can you help? Do you have a job in a science-based industry? Does your job require scientific knowledge?

(Dentist, Pharmacist, Vet, Job with animals, psychologist, electrician, pharmaceutical, food production etc.)

If so, we would love to hear from you and invite you in to share what your job involves with the children.

Please leave your contact details with the school office and we will get back to you to discuss how the children can benefit from your experience.