



This document is designed to inform you of the learning planned for your child's next unit of inquiry. In addition we offer you some optional ideas for supporting your child at home.

Y1 Unit Over view Sharing the Planet

During this inquiry the students will inquire into the Science Strand "Materials and Matter." The students will investigate the concepts of *choices* and *conservation* through the central idea "People's choices can help or hurt the Earth." Through this unit the students will gain an understanding of the R's e.g. reduce, reuse, recycle, refuse, repair, their purpose and how they work.

They will explore the choices they make with regards to the R's and become more knowledgeable about how those choices can affect the Earth in both positive and negative ways. We will ask students to consider the choices they are currently making and to think about ways that they could make even better choices that will help conserve Earth's natural resources. Throughout the unit the students will become more knowledgeable about the 5R's and they will also show that they can be more principled with the choices they make when using different materials. Through the responsibility concept we want students to recognise the choices they can make and personally commit to taking action to help conserve Earth's resources. Students will gain the self-management skill of making informed choices, they will gain this understanding through research and will also be supported in Presenting their research. These skills will help students with bringing together information from a variety of sources, looking at them closely for necessary information, and putting it all together in ways that make sense for them.

You may wish to support your child at home in the following ways:

Developing vocabulary:



Key vocabulary used in this unit will be:

recycling, reducing, reusing, repairing, replacing, refusing, responsibility, reasons, effects, principled, commitment, choices, conservation, materials, properties, systems, consequences, resources, finite, waste, paper, plastic, wood, trees, garbage, rubbish
Please consider using your Mother Tongue to develop your child's understanding of these words.

Conceptual questions:



This unit will be addressed through the lens of function, causation and responsibility.

Through the lens of function students will be exploring questions such as what are the R's and how do they work? To explore the concept of causation students will answer questions such as how do our choices with regards to the R's help or hurt the Earth? What are the consequences of the choices we are making? When looking through the lens of responsibility students will asking questions such as what choices can I make with how I use materials in order to have a positive impact on the Earth? How can I make sure I keep my commitment? Any conversations you can have with your child around these questions will help support their inquiries.

Fun things to do:



Do some investigations into the materials you use in your home. How much of it is reused, recycled, repaired and how much of it can be reduced? Collect all of your waste for a day or two to see how much waste you accumulate in your home. Sort it into the R's and have a chat about what choices your family can make to reduce the amount. Model for your child how to make a commitment and stick with it. Take some of your waste and create things from them that can be used in different ways around your home (50 Recycling Ideas here: <https://www.favecrafts.com/Earth-Day-Crafts/16-Recycle-Crafts-for-Kids>).

Look for action:



ACTION is a key element of the Primary Years Programme. We are always looking to see how children take their learning and apply it independently. This can take many forms - from a discussion about the unit of inquiry at home initiated by your child, role-play or even a request to bring a book or artifact in to school because it relates to the work we have been doing in school. Now that you know what the unit is all about please keep your eyes open for evidence of action and let us know! Any action that you tell us about will be kept as part of your child's records.

"Success for Every Child"