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Being a scientist

In this topic you are going to learn more about some of the skills that scientists use, and try these out yourself.

Let's observe





Look carefully at these two crabs.

The crabs have a number of things that are similar. For example, they both have ten legs, a hard shell on their bodies and two eyes. They also have a number of things that are different. For example, Crab A has bright red legs. Crab B has brown legs.

When we observe things in science, we look for both similarities and differences.

1 Observe these two craft items carefully.





Use coloured pencils.

- a Mark three things that are similar.
- **b** Mark three differences.

Let's measure, record and interpret data

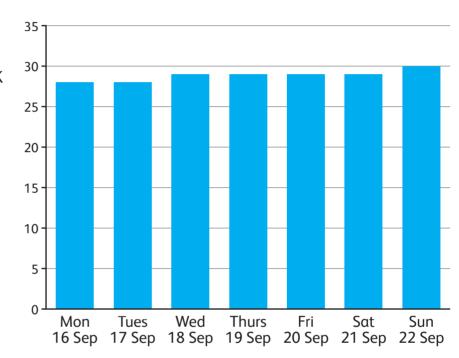
When we measure, we can write down or record the measurements in a table. This table shows the height of a bean seedling over a period of days.

Day	1	3	5	7	9
Height of seedling	2 cm	2 cm	$2\frac{1}{2}$ cm	3 cm	4 cm

This bar graph shows the temperature of the sea each day for a week in St John's, Antigua.

When you read information from the graph, you are interpreting the data.

2 Make up two questions about the graph.
Write them here.



Question a: _____

Question b: _____

Exchange with a partner and answer each other's questions.

Question a: _____

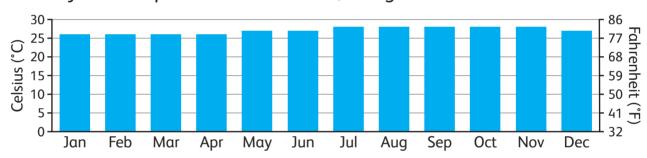
Question b:

3 Use a ruler to measure the length (or height) of five different objects in your classroom. Record your measurements in this table. Remember to include the units in your measurements.

What I measured	My measurement

4 Look carefully at this graph.

Monthly sea temperature in St John's, Antigua.



a What does the graph show you?

b In which months is the sea the coolest?

c Use data from the graph to complete this table.

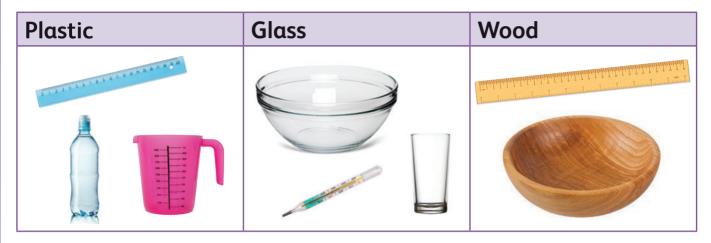
Sea temperature in Antigua during the year.

Month	January	April	July	October	December
Temperature in Celsius					

Let's classify

When we classify objects or living things we put them into groups using what is similar about them.

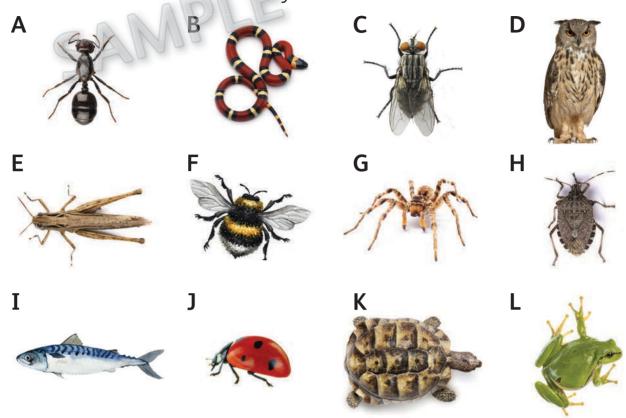
These objects have been classified using the material they are made from.



We can classify the items differently using what they are made from and what they are used for.

	Plastic	Glass	Wood
Measuring instrument			
Container for food or drink			

5 Observe the animals carefully.



- **a** Insects have six legs. Which of these animals are insects? Write their names here:
- **b** Which of these animals can fly? Write their names here:
- **c** Classify the animals in two groups. Write the letters in the correct place in the table.

Is an insect	Is not an insect

Let's infer and predict

When we predict ...

We use what we can see, or what we have read, to guess what may happen next.

If you see large storm clouds, you might predict that rain is coming.

When we infer ...

We use what we can see or what we have read AND what we already know to work out things. For example, sometimes there will be lots of clouds in the sky and also a strong wind blowing. But if you know that it doesn't usually rain when the wind comes from the inland.

you might infer that it is not going to rain.

- 6 Look at the pictures carefully.
 - a What can you infer about what happened to the nuts?

b What information did you know that helped you make your inference?





7 Predict what will happen next in each situation. Tell your partner why you think this will happen.





Caribbean Primary Science

SAMPLE PAGES

Open up the world of science to your students, enthusing and encouraging become focused, questioning and successful scientists, thinkers and problem.

Science and technology encompass some of the most important skills children need to master in the modern world. This series introduces and develops the building blocks of science study, ensuring student interest and academic progression continue hand-in-hand throughout primary school and on into secondary education.

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- Features special projects and research projects to build skills towards the end-of-primary examinations.
- Focus on practical work, green technologies, environmental issues and science in daily life.



The picture on the front of this book shows a classroom with lots of activity and discovery. You can use the picture to introduce science concepts and vocabulary and make links with the children's daily lives. Encourage the children to love science throughout their school life.

Look at what the children are doing in the picture and think about why they are doing it. They are studying and caring for plants and animals, studying weather and climate, and making things. Look at what they are making, and how these things might be used. What is their connection to science? There are more ideas on the inside of the cover.

