

Discovery

The Journey to Discovery



Years 5 & 6

Your students will learn about light refraction, electrical circuits, states of matter, and the scale of the solar system through hands-on experiments and experiences. They will build a thermoscope, a paper circuit and a balloon-powered rocket. Your students will work towards creating a presentation and a quiz to highlight the wondrous facts that they have learnt during the unit.

Rationale

Through learning about discoveries and the journeys that people go on to achieve them, we learn to value the process rather than the destination.

Essential questions

- How can we create a model to show the scale of something?
- Why does light refract?
- What do we need to make an electrical circuit?
- What are the states of matter?
- How can we code a computer program?

Glossary

angle, average, barge, battery, chronological, condensation, data, diameter, electrical circuit, formula, freezing, interstellar, melting, payload, plausible, protractor, rocket, scale, switch, thermoscope, thrust, vaporisation, wire, wondrous

Rich assessment task

Students will create a balloon-powered rocket. They will also use Scratch to create a presentation and a quiz highlighting the wondrous facts that they have learnt during the unit.

Future action

Your students will appreciate the scale and complexity of their world. They will use scientific knowledge and an understanding of the scientific method, as they discuss new discoveries. Through an awareness of historical patriarchy in science, your students will work towards equality in science and throughout of their lives. Your students will continue to develop science, engineering and programming skills as they move through their lives.