



making physics matter

Suggested resources for a primary science lab

Although resources will differ in each lab, it is important that they are easily accessible to encourage curiosity, scientific thinking and pupil-led investigations. Our list of suggested resources/equipment has been compiled based on recommendations from the Ogden Phiz Labs network.

All primary schools should have membership to [CLEAPPS](#) for the guidance on risk assessments and health and safety.

Physics enquiries		
Magnets and magnetic materials	Electric circuit equipment – lamps, batteries, wires, switches, motors, buzzers	Torches
Transparent, translucent and opaque materials	Mirrors – plane and curved	Filters – various colours
Prisms	UV beads	Sunglasses for testing
Tuning forks	Rubber bands	Plasticine
Slotted masses (10g and 100g)		

Chemistry enquiries		
Rocks	Soils	Fossils
Geologist eyeglasses	Plastic measuring beakers	Plastic test tubes
Spatulas	Stirring rods	Funnels
Filter paper	Jugs	Pipettes
Materials for testing	Candles	Heating apparatus suitable for primary schools
Washing up bowls		

Biology enquiries		
Skeleton	Bones	Models of digestive system, circulation system and the heart
Resin blocks with various invertebrate specimens for observation	Magnifying glasses	Microscopes (including digital)
Pooters	Sample trays	Nets for bug hunting and pond dipping
Quadrats for random sampling	Identification keys	

Measuring equipment		
Thermometers (digital and analogue)	Newton meters	Rulers (30cm and 1m)
Trundle wheels	Tape measures	Protractors
Measuring scales (digital, analogue, stand-on)	Electric balance	Stop watches
Measuring cylinders (various sizes)	Simple sand timers for KS1 classes	Multimeter for testing electric circuits
Data loggers with various sensors – including light, sound and temperature	iPad or similar tablet with measuring apps – sound and light	

Additional resources		
Safety glasses	Lab coats	Recording equipment
Reference books	Picture books (with a science theme/content)	

Resources to support data analysis in enquiries		
Graph paper	Squared paper	Calculators
Rulers	Protractors	

Consumables		
Bicarbonate of soda	Various sugars (icing, cubes, granulated, caster)	Vinegar
Salt		

Amazing extras		
Demo bench	Hoverboard	pH paper strips
Telescopes	Binoculars	

Remember, equipment should be appropriate for KS1 and KS2 enquiries and you should always notes any health and safety considerations. We recommend membership of [CLEAPPS](#).