

Science for excellence

This book approaches science in the same way as A Curriculum for Excellence: both place science enquiry right at the heart of the subject (see ACfE's science wheel below). Too many young people have been turned off science by an emphasis on difficult concepts and memorisation of facts: through this book children can experience the joy of finding out and understanding for themselves – not just the 'wow' factor, but the 'hey, cool' one as well!

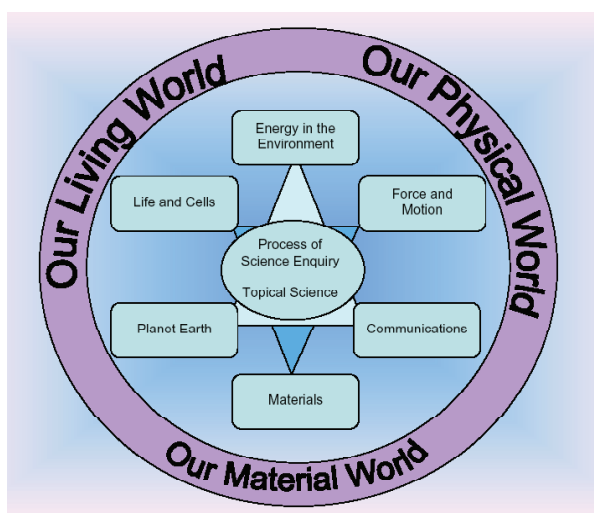


Diagram used with permission from the Scottish Government

Using ACfE's categories, the book's activities can be mapped as follows:

1) Planet Earth

It lives... or does it?	8
Perfect plants	26
Root and stem	28
Looking at leaves	30
Amazing algae	32
Home sweet home	34
Don't drink the water!	52
Planet spotting	54
Rain, rain, go away	64
All in a day's work	88

2) Energy in the Environment

Stoking the engine	12
Nature's garden	36
Roaring rockets	44
Abracadabra!	70
Turning lead into gold	72
Must dot-dot, dash-dash	84

3) Force and Motion

Roaring rockets	44
Fun with friction	48
A tight squeeze	66
Magical magnets	68

4) Life and Cells

Just like Mummy?	10
Stoking the engine	12
Potent potions	14
Dem bones	16
Pump it up!	18
All very hush hush	80

5) Communications

Smile please!	62
Up periscope!	82
Must dot-dot, dash-dash	84

6) Materials

Splash down!	46
Create a crater	50
Secret messages	86
Fantastic forensics	90

Although not every outcome is touched on, many are. Using this book as a framework means that every one of the six main areas of ACfE science can be covered – in a way that is interactive, experiential, creative and fun!

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