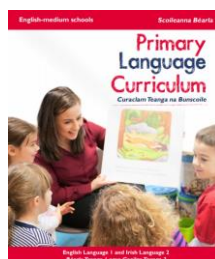


## Literacy and Science at Home

Science education enhances children's knowledge and understanding of themselves and the world in which they live. It involves children in the active construction of their own understanding. This inquiry-based learning is important for all aspects of the curriculum. A scientific approach to investigations fosters the development of important skills, concepts and knowledge through which children can observe, question, investigate, understand and think logically about living things and their environments, materials, forces, everyday events and problems (Primary Science Curriculum 1999).



The Primary Language Curriculum (2019) sets out an image of children as communicators, readers, writers and thinkers. Language and literacy is an integrated process. Children's homes and communities play a key role in their language learning. By exploring and using language and literacy at home you are achieving curricular goals.



Science is a fantastic way of using Multisensory Teaching and Learning (helping a child to learn through more than one sense). It includes techniques and strategies that stimulate learning by engaging children on multiple levels.

- *Reading and comprehending a method:* Thinking about what needs to be done **before**, **during** and **after** reading aids understanding of what was read
- *Vocabulary Development:* A great opportunity to learn new words in context
- *Motivation to Read:* This is so important in encouraging children to read for meaning and have a real practical purpose for reading and enjoying the fruits of their labour!
- *Language of sequencing **first**, **next**, then **finally**:* These concepts can be very difficult for children. Using sequencing cards, sorting activities, photographs of you completing the science experiment and following the steps in a method makes learning real and reinforces the learning
- *Using kitchen equipment:* Reading the options on a microwave, preheating oven
- *Writing Genre:* Procedural Writing, e.g. Method of an experiment
- *Oral Language:* Science provides a great opportunity for discussion in a natural way, talking aloud, role play (children love to pretend to be the scientist!) Take a multisensory approach
- *TIP:* try to use at least two senses when teaching your child new vocabulary item(s).