How is literacy embedded in Primary Connections curriculum units?

Read in conjunction with *Using literacy to differentiate in primary science.*

Primary Connections supports teachers to provide students with opportunities to develop literacy skills while learning about science. Students are supported to demonstrate their understanding of science concepts, process and skills throughout science inquiry by creating representations that draw on and strengthen literacy development. In Primary Connections curriculum units, these representations are highlighted as a 'literacy focus'.

There are forty-two literacy foci across the suite of Primary Connections curriculum units, F-Year 6. Guided by AC: Science scope and sequence, each suggested literacy focus is appropriate for the science concept, science inquiry skill/s, and student year level. A range of literacy foci are suggested across the suite of units to support development of a range of science literacy skills and representational thinking throughout primary years of schooling.

Use the tables below to inform planning and for scope and sequencing. Student-friendly descriptions of each literacy focus are located in the third table.

Literacy foci development across Foundation to Year 2

Representation	Foundation Year						Year 1							Year 2				
	Staying alive	Growing well	What's it made of?	That's my hat!	Weather in my world	On the move	Schoolyard safari	Dinosaurs and more	Spot the difference	Bend it! Stretch it!	Up, down and all around	Changes all around	Look! Listen!	Watch it grow!	All mixed up	Water works	Push-pull	Machine makers
Annotated drawing	✔	✔		✔				✔	✔	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔		✔	✔
Drawing		✔	✔		✔				✔			✔						
Factual recount					✔											✔		
Factual text					✔		✔					✔				✔	✔	

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Literacy foci development across Foundation to Year 2

Representation	Foundation Year						Year 1							Year 2				
	Staying alive	Growing well	What's it made of?	That's my hat!	Weather in my world	On the move	Schoolyard safari	Dinosaurs and more	Spot the difference	Bend it! Stretch it!	Up, down and all around	Changes all around	Look! Listen!	Watch it grow!	All mixed up	Water works	Push-pull	Machine makers
Flow chart										✔	✔							
Force-arrow diagram																	✔	✔
Graph	✔	✔				✔	✔									✔		
Ideas map	✔						✔								✔			✔
Interview											✔					✔		
Labelled diagram						✔	✔	✔						✔		✔		
Line drawing														✔				
Map							✔									✔		
Picture map		✔																
Poster											✔							
Procedural text															✔			

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Literacy foci development across Foundation to Year 2

Representation	Foundation Year						Year 1							Year 2				
	Staying alive	Growing well	What's it made of?	That's my hat!	Weather in my world	On the move	Schoolyard safari	Dinosaurs and more	Spot the difference	Bend it! Stretch it!	Up, down and all around	Changes all around	Look! Listen!	Watch it grow!	All mixed up	Water works	Push-pull	Machine makers
Role-play							✔						✔		✔	✔		
Science chat-board												✔						
Science journal	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Sorting diagram	✔			✔								✔						
Storyboard	✔															✔		
Table	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔		✔	✔
T-chart	✔							✔									✔	
Timeline														✔				
Venn diagram						✔						✔						
Word chain									✔									
Word wall	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

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How is literacy embedded in Primary Connections Curriculum units?

Literacy foci development across Year 3 to Year 6

Representation	Year 3				Year 4								Year 5				Year 6						
	Feathers, fur or leaves?	Melting moments	Night and day	Heating up	Plants in action*	Friends or foes?	Among the gum trees	Material world	Package it better	Beneath our feet	Smooth moves	Magnetic moves	Desert survivors	What's the matter?	Earth's place in space	Light shows	Marvellous microorganisms	Rising salt	Change detectives	Earthquake explorers	Creators and destroyers	Essential energy	Circuits and switches
Analogy																							✓
Annotated drawing		✓						✓			✓	✓	✓	✓									
Annotated diagram							✓			✓												✓	✓
Biography																							✓
Branching key	✓																						
Cross-section					✓	✓															✓		
Circuit diagram																							✓
Cut-away diagram																				✓			✓
Design portfolio									✓														
Factual recount															✓			✓		✓	✓		
Factual text					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓				✓		✓		✓	✓

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Literacy foci development across Year 3 to Year 6

Representation	Year 3				Year 4								Year 5				Year 6						
	Feathers, fur or leaves?	Melting moments	Night and day	Heating up	Plants in action*	Friends or foes?	Among the gum trees	Material world	Package it better	Beneath our feet	Smooth moves	Magnetic moves	Desert survivors	What's the matter?	Earth's place in space	Light shows	Marvellous microorganisms	Rising salt	Change detectives	Earthquake explorers	Creators and destroyers	Essential energy	Circuits and switches
Flow chart							✔								✔		✔					✔	
Force-arrow diagram											✔	✔											
Glossary								✔							✔		✔			✔	✔	✔	✔
Graph	✔	✔	✔					✔		✔	✔		✔			✔	✔		✔	✔			
Ideas map			✔								✔							✔		✔			✔
Information text																	✔						
Interview									✔														
Labelled diagram	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔		✔							✔	✔	✔		
Line drawing	✔	✔																					
Map										✔													
Narrative										✔													

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Literacy foci development across Year 3 to Year 6

Representation	Year 3				Year 4								Year 5				Year 6						
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Oral presentation									✔				✔							✔	✔		
Poster				✔			✔											✔					
Procedural text	✔	✔			✔	✔			✔	✔		✔			✔	✔	✔		✔			✔	✔
Ray diagram													✔										
Report																			✔				
Role-play		✔	✔					✔			✔				✔				✔				
Science chat-board	✔					✔								✔		✔				✔			
Science journal	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Storyboard		✔				✔					✔								✔				
Summary									✔				✔				✔		✔			✔	
Table	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔	✔	✔		✔

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Literacy foci development across Year 3 to Year 6

Representation	Year 3				Year 4								Year 5				Year 6						
	Feathers, fur or leaves?	Melting moments	Night and day	Heating up	Plants in action*	Friends or foes?	Among the gum trees	Material world	Package it better	Beneath our feet	Smooth moves	Magnetic moves	Desert survivors	What's the matter?	Earth's place in space	Light shows	Marvellous microorganisms	Rising salt	Change detectives	Earthquake explorers	Creators and destroyers	Essential energy	Circuits and switches
T-chart	✔		✔	✔																	✔		
Timeline					✔															✔			
TWLH chart					✔		✔			✔		✔	✔		✔		✔	✔		✔			✔
Venn diagram																			✔				
Word wall	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

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How is literacy embedded in Primary Connections Curriculum units?

Literacy focus descriptions

Support student development of literacy skills while learning about science, with these literacy focus descriptions.

Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Analogy		**Why do we use an analogy?** We use an **analogy** to show how the features of two things are alike in some way. **What does an analogy include?** An **analogy** might be in spoken or written form and might include models, diagrams or role-plays.
Annotated drawing	**Why do we use an annotated drawing?** We use an **annotated drawing** to show an idea or object. **What does an annotated drawing include?** An **annotated drawing** includes a picture and words or descriptions about the idea or object.	
Annotated diagram		**Why do we use an annotated diagram?** We use an **annotated diagram** to show the parts of an object and what they do. **What does an annotated diagram include?** An **annotated diagram** might include an accurate drawing, a title, a date and a few words about each of the parts. A line or arrow joins the words to the part.
Biography		**Why do we use a biography?** We use a **biography** to describe events in a person's life. We can read a **biography** to find out about what a person did. **What does a biography include?** A **biography** includes a title, dates and descriptions of the person's achievements. The events are usually listed in the order they occurred and include the person's contribution to society.
Branching key		**What is a branching key?** A **branching key** is a tool to help identify and classify objects. **What does a branching key include?** A **branching key** includes questions to answer and arrows to follow until the object is classified.

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Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Chronological list		**Why do we use a chronological list?** We use a **chronological list** to summarise a series of events in the order they happened. **What does a chronological list include?** A **chronological list** includes a title, the date of each event and a description of each event.
Circuit diagram		**Why do we use a circuit diagram?** We use a **circuit diagram** to represent an electric circuit as a picture. **What does a circuit diagram include?** A **circuit diagram** includes standard symbols to represent the components of the electrical circuit and shows their position in the circuit.
Cross-section		**Why do we use a cross-section?** We use a **cross-section** to show the inside of an object. **What does a cross-section include?** A **cross-section** includes a title, a drawing and an indication of scale. The main features are labelled and lines or arrows connect the label to the feature.
Cut-away diagram		**Why do we use a cut-away diagram?** We use a **cut-away diagram** to show the inside and outside parts of an object. **What does a cut-away diagram include?** A **cut-away diagram** includes a title and a drawing showing what the inside of the object looks like. It includes labels with lines or arrows to indicate the feature.
Design portfolio		**Why do we use a design portfolio?** We use a **design portfolio** to record what we see, experience and think so we can review it later. **What does a design portfolio include?** A **design portfolio** includes a design brief and information to help with the design process. It might include text, drawings, sketches, labelled diagrams, graphic designs, photographs, tables and graphs.
Drawing	**Why do we use a drawing?** We use a **drawing** to illustrate an idea or an object. **What does a drawing include?** A **drawing** includes lines to represent a likeness, image, plan or design, usually using a pen, pencil or crayon.	

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Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Factual recount	**Why do we use a factual recount?** We use a **factual recount** to describe experiences we have had. We can read a factual recount to find out about things that have happened to someone else. **What does a factual recount include?** A **factual recount** might include descriptions of personal feelings and other people who were part of the events. It is often written in past tense.	
Factual text	**Why do we use a factual text?** We use a **factual text** to inform, teach or persuade someone reading it. We can read a **factual text** to collect information. **What does a factual text include?** A **factual text** includes a title, text and pictures. It might include labels, diagrams, maps and photographs.	
Flow chart	**Why do we use a flow chart** We use a **flow chart** to show the order that things happen in. **What does a flow chart include?** A **flow chart** includes a title, pictures and/or words and arrows. The arrows show the order things happen and might go in a line or in a circle.	
Force-arrow diagram	**Why do we use a force-arrow diagram?** We use a **force-arrow diagram** to show push and pull forces. **What does a force-arrow diagram include?** A **force-arrow diagram** uses arrows to show the direction of forces. A pull is shown by an arrow pointing away from the object. A push is shown by an arrow pointing towards the object.	
Glossary		**Why do we use a glossary?** We use a **glossary** to record descriptions of words, phrases or names about what we are learning. We might read a **glossary** in a book to find out what technical words about the topic mean. **What does a glossary include?** A **glossary** includes words, sentences or names, in alphabetical order, with a description or explanation for each.
Graph	**Why do we use a graph?** We use a **graph** to organise information so we can look for patterns. We use different types of **graphs**, such as picture, column, or line graphs, for different purposes. **What does a graph include?** A **graph** includes a title, axes with labels on them and the units of measurement.	

How is literacy embedded in Primary Connections Curriculum units?

Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Ideas map	**Why do we use an ideas map?** We use an **ideas map** to show our thoughts about a topic. **What does an ideas map include? A** An **ideas map** includes a title in the centre. Ideas are written around it and arrows are drawn between similar ideas. An **ideas map** might include pictures and symbols.	
Information report		**Why do we use an information report?** We use an **information report** to record factual information about a topic. We can read an **information report** to collect information. **What does an information report include?** An **information report** includes an introduction, a series of paragraphs describing the topic and a summary paragraph.
Interview	**Why do we use an interview?** We use an **interview** to collect information and opinions from someone. **What does an interview include?** An **interview** includes one or more people asking questions and one or more people answering them. It might take place face-to-face or over distance, such as by telephone or video link.	
Labelled diagram	**Why do we use a labelled diagram?** We use a **labelled diagram** to show the shape, size and features of an object. **What does a labelled diagram include?** A **labelled diagram** might include a title, an accurate drawing, a scale to show the object's size and labels showing the main features. A line or arrow connects the label to the feature.	
Line drawing		**Why do we use a line drawing?** We use a **line drawing** to show what an object looks like without lots of detail. **What does a line drawing include?** A **line drawing** includes simple lines usually using a pencil.
Map	**Why do we use a map?** We use a **map** to show where things are, how far apart they are and how to get between them. **What does a map include?** A **map** includes a title, labels, symbols and a key to explain the symbols. It might include arrows to show a path and scale to show distances.	

How is literacy embedded in Primary Connections Curriculum units?

Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Narrative		**Why do we use a narrative?** We use a **narrative** to tell the story of connected events. It is often used to entertain and inform the audience. **What does a narrative include?** A **narrative** might be spoken or in written form and might include pictures or props.
Oral presentation		**Why do we use an oral presentation?** We use an **oral presentation** to entertain or provide information for an audience. **What does an oral presentation include?** An **oral presentation** is a speech that has an introduction, main part and conclusion. It might be serious or funny depending on the topic and audience.
Picture map	**Why do we use a picture map?** We use a **picture map** to show where things are and how far apart they are. **What does a picture map include?** A **picture map** includes a title, pictures to show each thing and labels. A line or arrow connects the label to the object or place.	
Poster	**Why do we use a poster?** We use a **poster** to display ideas and information. We can view a poster to collect information about a topic. **What does a poster include?** A **poster** includes a title, words and pictures. It might include graphs, photos and tables as well as borders, arrows and labels.	
Procedural text	**Why do we use a procedural text?** We use a **procedural text** to find out how something is done. **What does a procedural text include?** A **procedural text** includes a title, a list of materials that we need to do a task and a sequence of steps to follow. It might include labelled diagrams.	

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Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Ray diagram		**Why do we use a ray diagram?** We use a **ray diagram** to show the path of light rays from a light source. **What does a ray diagram include?** A **ray diagram** includes arrows showing where the light travels.
Report		**Why do we use a report?** We use a **report** to present information in written form. It might be used to teach or influence the audience. **What does a report include?** A **report** includes an introduction, a body and a conclusion. It might include charts, tables, graphs and images.
Role-play	**Why do we use a role-play?** We use a **role-play** to show how something works by acting it out. **What does a role-play include?** A **role-play** might include speech, actions and props.	
Science chat-board		**Why do we use a science chat-board?** A **science chat-board** is a display area where we share our changing questions, ideas, thoughts and findings about a science topic. **What does a science chat-board include?** A **science chat-board** might include a title, words, pictures, questions, ideas and reflections with dates.
Science journal	**Why do we use a science journal?** We use a **science journal** to record what we see, hear, feel and think so that we can look at it later. **What does a science journal include?** A **science journal** includes dates and times. It might include written text, drawings, measurements, labelled diagrams, photographs, tables and graphs.	
Sorting diagram	**Why do we use a sorting diagram?** We use a **sorting diagram** to show how things fit into different groups. **What does a sorting diagram include?** A **sorting diagram** includes two or more groups which do not overlap. It might include headings for each of the groups.	

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How is literacy embedded in Primary Connections Curriculum units?

Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Story board	**Why do we use a storyboard?** We use a **storyboard** to show the important steps of a process in the order that they happen. **What does a storyboard include?** A **storyboard** includes a title and a series of drawings. Each step in the **storyboard** is numbered and includes a caption describing the step.	
Summary		**Why do we use a summary?** We use a **summary** to present the main points of a topic or text. **What does a summary include?** A **summary** includes a concise description of the main points of a topic or text.
Table	**Why do we use a table?** We use a **table** to organise information so that we can understand it more easily. **What does a table include?** A **table** includes a title, columns with headings and information organised under each heading.	
T-chart	**Why do we use a T-chart?** We use a **T-chart** to organise information so that we can understand it more easily. **What does a T- chart include?** A **T-chart** includes two columns with headings. Information is put in to the columns based on the headings.	
Timeline	**Why do we use a timeline?** We use a **timeline** to show events in the order they happened. **What does a timeline include?** A **timeline** includes a heading and units of time. Each event is indicated on the timeline using words or symbols.	
TWLH chart		**Why do we use a TWLH chart?** We use a **TWLH chart** to show our thoughts and ideas about a topic before, during and after an investigation or activity. **What does a TWLH chart include?** A **TWLH chart** includes four sections with the headings: What we **T**hink we know, What we **W**ant to learn, What we **L**earned, and **H**ow we know. Words or pictures can be used to show our thoughts and ideas.

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Literacy focus	Foundation to Year 2	Year 3 - 6
Venn diagram	**Why do we use a Venn diagram?** We use a **Venn diagram** to show how the properties of different things are similar and different. **What does a Venn diagram include?** A **Venn diagram** includes overlapping circles. Things with a particular property are placed in a particular circle. Things with more than one of the properties are placed in the area where the circles overlap.	
Word chain	**Why do we use a word chain?** We use a **word chain** to show the steps in a process. **What does a word chain include?** A **word chain** includes keywords or pictures in a specific order. Arrows are drawn between the words or pictures to show the sequence.	
Word wall	**Why do we use a word wall?** We use a **word wall** to record words we know or learn about a topic. We display the **word wall** in the classroom so that we can look up words we are learning about and see how they are spelled. **What does a word wall include?** A **word wall** includes a topic title or picture and words that we have seen or heard about the topic.	