YEAR 4 COMPUTING / KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

# Data Logging

A data logger collects readings automatically over time. We can look for patterns in those readings to answer a question.

## Key vocabulary

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|---|---|
| **Data** | Information that can be collected and used. |
| **Sensor** | A device that detects or measures something, such as light. |
| **Data logger** | A device that records readings over time. |
| **Data point** | One recorded reading, often with its time. |
| **Interval** | The time between readings. |
| **Temperature** | A measure of how warm or cold something is. |
| **Line graph** | A graph that can show how readings change over time. |
| **Analyse** | Look closely at data to find patterns and answer questions. |

## What you need to know

- Start with a question you can investigate. Choose a sensor that measures what you need to find out.
- Decide where to place the logger, how long to record for and how often to take a reading.
- Use a computer to display readings in a table or graph. Look for high and low readings, changes and patterns.
- Use readings as evidence when you answer your question. When comparing places, use the same interval in each place.

**Worked example**

**Question → Choose a sensor → Log readings → Look for patterns**

To find the warmest part of the day, record temperature at regular intervals and look for the highest reading.

**Quick recall**

1. Which sensor would help you find when the classroom is brightest?
2. What does a five-minute interval mean?

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