

Key Stage 1

Know your trees

Learning objective:	To recognise and identify different tree types.
You will need:	The Know your Trees poster, an outing to a local woodland or around the playground, secateurs to cut twigs.
Activity:	An outing to look at the different ways trees grow and for leaf collecting, followed by online research and poster-making for different tree species.
Starter:	Before the outing see how many tree species pupils can name, write them on the board and ask how many of them they think they will identify on their outing. Find out how much they know about deciduous and evergreen trees.
Development:	<p>Go out to the woodland and in groups of three or four (seven groups in total) have them collect as many different leaf types and fruits and seeds as possible. Depending on the season, these can either be collected off the ground or by carefully taking examples from the trees. Take secateurs to help make neat cuts.</p> <p>Back in the class, give each group a copy of the Know your Trees poster and ask them to identify how many leaves from the poster they have found.</p> <p>Ask them to draw each leaf and write a description about it that would help someone classify the leaf. Do they think it is from a deciduous or evergreen tree – why do they think this.</p> <p>Give each group one of the leaf types to investigate further, either using IT or homework, to find out as much as they can about that tree: where it grows, how it grows, how tall it grows, what it is used for, what animals live in it etc. Encourage them to find out the most surprising fact about the tree that they can. Use this information to create a group poster about the tree.</p>
Plenary:	Have each group prepare a quiz of five questions for the class based on their poster. Each group then asks the other groups their questions in a quiz show format where groups use their “tree name” as their buzzer sound to answer the questions.
Further activities:	Use the leaves to do leaf rubbings using crayons and thin paper.