

Topic: Trees (National Tree Week)

Year 2

Linked to Science

National Tree Week is the UK's largest annual tree celebration, marking the start of the winter tree planting season (November to March each year). Each year group will spend this week learning how fundamental trees are to our lives and become involved in planting new trees and various projects.

**Prior knowledge**

- To recognise and identify different tree types



**What I will know**

- What National Tree Week is.
- Names of at least 3 types of leaf and match them to the tree.
- Know a tree has a leaf, seed or nut.
- Be able to state the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.
- The purpose of trees.

**Key knowledge I need to understand**

- Deciduous** trees lose their leaves in the autumn every year. Their leaves are generally broad, flat and have veins running through them.
- Evergreen** trees have green leaves all year round. Their leaves are generally thick, waxy and narrow/needle-like.
- National Tree Week** is the UK's largest annual tree celebration, marking the start of the winter tree planting season.
- The purpose of trees** – trees contribute to their environment by providing oxygen, improving air quality, climate amelioration, conserving water, preserving soil, and supporting wildlife. During the process of photosynthesis, trees take in carbon dioxide and produce the oxygen we breathe.

**How I will investigate**

- Tree/leaf identification sheets (nature detective resources).
- Bark rubbings, in order to identify different features of the bark.
- Tree hugging (getting to know your tree) – touch the tree and think about:  
Where are the branches?  
Is it rough or smooth?  
Does it have leaves that you can touch?  
Is it a tall tree or stumpy?
- Create a poster about the different species of tree using the leaves they have found.



**Broad-leaved/Deciduous**

English Oak  
Sycamore  
Chestnut  
Beech  
Ash  
Hazel  
Alder  
Maple  
Elder  
Silver Birch

**Coniferous/Evergreen**

Leyland Cypress  
Scots Pine  
Yew  
Holly  
Holm Oak