

RHS GARDEN ROSEMOOR

Self Guided Activity Ideas for Schools

Key Stage 2

WHAT'S THAT TREE?

Trees can be identified by their size and shape, their seeds, the leaves, the buds and the bark.

How long will it take?

As long as you like

What do I need to bring?

Pictures of tree leaves or bark pictures.

The Woodland Trust has identification sheets and lots of other resources and ideas -

www.woodlandtrust.co.uk

- most of these are trees found in the wild in the UK. Many trees at RHS Garden Rosemoor come from places all over the world.

You could also use laminated or pressed real leaves collected during your pre-visit. (Please only collect leaves from the ground for this).

How do we do it?

The class could be divided into groups to identify trees in different ways. The bud identification can take place from November to April. However, there are plenty of leaves on the woodland floor all year round.

Use the pictures or the sheets and as small groups try to match the trees to the pictures.

Where can we do it?

Anywhere in the garden though the Millenium arboretum might be a good place to look. Torrington

Follow Up Activities

- Make a tree identification mobile using different parts of a tree (leaves, fruit, bark, buds etc)
- Make their own tree key - See www.saps.org.uk/primary/teaching-resources/560-grouping. This has a downloadable resource on grouping and classification including a section on 'Making and Using Keys'
- Make tree dominoes using real or drawn leaves
- Find out about tree uses, myths and legends; 'A Tree In Your Pocket' by Jacqueline Memory Paterson or 'A Little Guide to Trees' by Charlotte Voake
- Press collected leaves and use to make ID chart / booklet



Wood on Lady Anne's side of the garden is more native though mostly Beech.

When can we do it?

Summer or early autumn for leaf identification or autumn/winter for bark only.