

Trees are Plants

KS2
LOWER*

National curriculum objectives



- working scientifically: using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions
- identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers

Resources

(you will need):

None required



10 MINUTE ACTIVITY

Go outside and ask pairs to find a small plant to observe. Ask them to describe it to each other e.g. features, size and requirements. Ask them to identify a tree in the distance. Again, ask them to describe it to each other.

What are the similarities between the small plant and the tree? **Both need light, water, air, nutrients from the soil and room to grow. Both have leaves, roots (although you can't see them) and flowers.**

What are the differences? **At full growth, trees are bigger. It is called a stem on a small plant but a trunk/branches on a tree. Trees have bark.**

Which parts of a small plant complete the same functions as a tree? **The stem has the same function as the trunk and branches, the flowers, leaves and roots complete the same functions.**

Class reflection

Did you know that one oak tree can be the habitat for as many as 500 different living things? Trees are incredibly important for the environment and for wildlife as they offer a home and food to birds, bats and insects. However, trees are still being cut down at enormous rates which deprives wildlife and makes them more vulnerable to hunting. Even just small changes, such as using scrap paper for colouring, drawing, sketching and always using both sides of paper, can help reduce the amount of trees being cut down.

Have time for a literacy link?

Cut up colour swatches or magazines into separate squares and place in a box. Children put their hand in and pull out one or two swatches at a time. Their task is to go outdoors and 'find' their colour. Once found, they complete the simile: 'As green as... [an ancient fern leaf]' These can be made into a great display of the swatches with simile labels next to them, to assist in descriptive writing. It can also be given as a home learning task.

Philosopher question

How would the world be different if plants could talk?



*Year 3 and 4 objectives