

## Trees & Woodlands

### Tree Discovery

#### KS1 & KS2

**Aim:** To discover the variety of trees and the differences between them. Discuss the importance of trees for wildlife and man.

**Preparation:** Plan a route through the LNR passing some common trees accessible to the children.

**Equipment:** A reference guide to trees if required.

**Restrictions:** In Autumn more focus can be made on leaf colour, identification without leaves and deciduous/coniferous trees.

**Teacher Notes:** Organise children into small groups. Ask them to discover a tree within a given area. Allow 5-10mins for them to look at their chosen tree. Each group should then describe their tree to the rest of the group:

*Note: Avoid picking leaves off the tree or peeling the bark, they are vital to the trees survival!*

- The shape, is it a tree or shrub?
- The leaves and buds, colour, shape, texture
- The bark, rough/smooth, soft/hard
- Evidence of fruit, seed cases
- Does it smell?
- How old do you think it is?
- Other features, holes, moss, ivy
- Where it is growing, is it in shade/light, wet or dry ground?
- What is the tree called?

#### **Further/Alternative study:**

- Ask the children to draw and label leaf shapes
- Look at Bark textures/pattern by taking bark rubbings
- KS2 children could write a descriptive statement of their tree