

Trees Detectives

Half day

Key Stage 1

Summary of Day

Using a map and clues about the tree's unique characteristics, we embarked on a journey to locate a specific tree in our beautiful pleasure gardens. Each tree offers an activity to engage with nature. For instance, you can identify different types of leaves, name the various parts of the tree, or even create a bark rubbing to capture the tree's texture.

Learning objectives

- To identify and name a variety of trees.
- To identify and name the main parts of a tree.
- To discover the characteristics of specific trees
- To work as a team to carry out tasks
- To be able to accurately locate a specific tree within the garden using a provided map and clues

Key Vocabulary

tree
trunk
branch
twig
leaf
roots
fruit
seed
bark
horse chestnut
holly
beech
willow
oak
yew
evergreen
deciduous

Some children may learn:
heartwood
phloem
xylem
flexible

Prior Learning

No prior learning is essential for children to take part in this day.

To maximise children's learning during their visit, it would be beneficial for them to:

- Know the five things that plants (trees) need to grow
- The names of some trees

Example outline of the day

Approx 10 am	Arrive / Introduction to Gatton / Safety talk
10.15 – 10.25	Each group receives a booklet, a map, and a scavenger hunting tube. Assign each group a different starting point on the map along with a clue about the tree they need to find
10.25 – 10.30	Walk to the Pleasure Gardens.
10.30 – 11.45	Trees and Tall Tales – each group will find their starting point using a map. Pupils will read a clue at the starting point and use the tree booklets to work out which tree they need to find. After locating the tree using the map the children complete a tree related activity. This is repeated until all the activities have been completed. (Each group will start at a different point).
11.45	Walk back and stop at an evergreen tree. Students will be learning about deciduous and evergreen trees. After that each pupil will have a clay ball to make a tree spirit. They can either stick in a stick and bring home or stick on a tree.
12.00	Lunch

Assessment Opportunities

Gatton Staff will assess progress throughout the day by open ended questioning and plenary session.

- Can the children name the 5 things for a tree to grow?
- Can the children identify and name some common trees?
- Do the children know the main parts of a tree?
- Can the children identify something special about a tree?

Information for the group leader

- Outdoor clothing & sturdy footwear / wellies are advised
- Please note this day will go ahead in most weather conditions. However alternative bad weather activities are available at the Centre if necessary.
- Centre Risk Assessments are available for those who come on a pre visit, these may be used to write your own risk assessments in accordance with your school's requirements.

Post Visit learning opportunities

Make information sheets/display about the trees seen on their tree walk at Gatton.

Find out about the many uses of trees.

Investigate leaf litter and rotting wood.

Create food webs – using relationships between trees and animals.

Differentiation	Access	Adult Participation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate• Specific adjustments can be made to suit individual needs in conjunction with the class teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large worksheets can be provided with prior notice.• Different learning styles considered throughout the day.• Please inform us in advance if any of your students have limited mobility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate during practical tasks.• Adults to accompany each group during the activities.

Resources

All resources for the day are provided by Gatton Park, including:
Tree ID booklets