

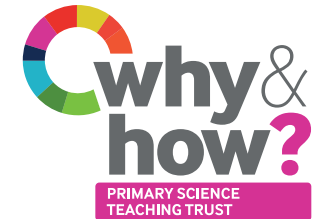


Tree restoration

Climate change is, in significant part, due to a build up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that has mostly been caused by human industry. Trees play an important part in reducing the excesses of carbon dioxide as they take this in during a process called photosynthesis and use it to produce energy, which is stored in the plant. Therefore, planting more trees will be beneficial to the planet.

ACTIVITY

Tree survey: How many different types of tree grow in your local area?



ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Before going outside, the children might like to play the Tree Trumps card game from Forestry England to familiarise themselves with different trees (use QR code 1 to download and print the cards before the session). Activity leaders could also show a 3-minute film explaining how many trees there are in the world (use QR code 2 to access this nature film).

If you have mobile devices, download either of the tree identification apps mentioned, and show the children how to use these. Alternatively, print identification guides.

Children could work in pairs. Whilst outside, encourage children to look carefully at the shape of the tree, the leaves, the bark, any fruit or seeds and the habitat (is it wet or dry, shady or sunny?). They could record the tree types found and note observations on paper or with photographs.

After working outside, remind children to wash their hands with soap and water.

RESOURCES

printed tree identification guides - see:
<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/03/tree-id-kids/>
 mobile devices with tree ID Apps (optional) - see:
<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/tree-id-app/>
<https://www.inaturalist.org/>
 paper and pencils (or cameras) for records

QUESTIONS FOR LEARNING

- How many different trees did you identify?
- Which is the most common tree in your local area?
- Do you know other types of trees that are suitable for planting in the UK?
- Are there any trees that are not suitable? Why?



1



2

KEY FACTS/SCIENCE

The amount of **carbon dioxide** in the Earth's atmosphere has increased due to humans burning fossil fuels. This is responsible for warming the surface temperature of the Earth and **climate change**.

Our planet is currently home to 3.304 trillion trees (3,040,000,000,000) - that's almost 400 trees for every person on Earth. Trees absorb carbon dioxide. By increasing the number of trees, climate change could be limited.

We are currently losing about 10 billion trees a year (10,000,000,000) but groups all over the world are working on planting trees and **reforestation**.