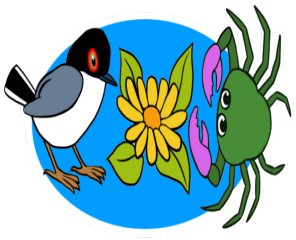
Children increase awareness, understanding and connection with trees in the neighborhood.

Trees are Cool 1



Keywords **trees lesson • outdoors • indoors • observation • family activity • Science • Maths**

1. Why trees are life-givers

Design a lesson to highlight the many benefits of trees, such as:

- Leaves release oxygen, the “good air” that all animals (including humans) need to live.
- Leaves provide shelter for birds, as well as hiding spots and nesting material.
- Fallen leaves turn into natural compost and fertiliser, enriching the soil.
- Leaves and bark serve as food and habitat for many animals, which in turn support other animals in the food chain.
- Tree trunks offer a base for lichens, mosses, fungi, and even small flowering plants.
- Fruits are an excellent food source for both animals and people.
- Flowers produce nectar that attracts insects such as butterflies, moths, bees, and wasps; in some places even bats, birds, lizards, and monkeys drink nectar from trees.
- Trees create shady, damp environments where other plants, fungi, and animals can thrive.
- Roots anchor the soil, preventing erosion, landslides, and desertification.

2. Getting ready for a tree adventure

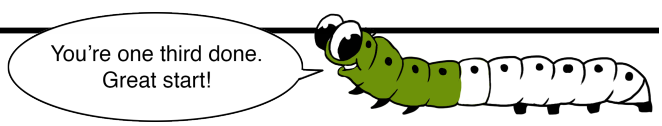
Prepare for an outing to explore neighbourhood trees:

- Go through the "*Knowing My Tree*" worksheet with the class (Downloadable Material).
- Make a clinometer.
- Plan a safe walking rout to visit local trees.
- Print copies of the "*Knowing My Tree*" worksheet.
- Gather materials and gear needed for the walk (see box below).

3. Meeting your neighbourhood trees

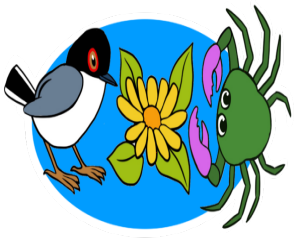
Pair up the children before setting off and give each pair a worksheet. Follow the worksheet during the walk and assign a tree to each pair/group. Before leaving, remind the children to give the trees a hug to thank them for everything they provide!

4. Bringing trees into the classroom



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Back in class, create a display using the collected tree photos and information. Leave space for homework: ask children to take a photo of an interesting tree they spot near their home or while out with their family. These photos can then be added to the class collage, encouraging family involvement in the appreciation of trees.

Send photos of

- ☐ Tree benefits lesson
- ☐ Display
- ☐ Children investigating neighborhood trees

Resources & Equipment Needed

- Clipboard (one per pair);
- Ruler (one per pair);
- Tape measure;
- Trundle wheel;
- String;
- Tablet/phone/camera;
- Clinometer, materials needed to DIY:
  - Protractor with small hole in centre spot/ paper printout of protractor;
  - Cardboard;
  - 20cm/8inch string;
  - Weight e.g. paper clip/small piece of clay;
  - Glue;
  - Scissors;
  - Straw (paper);
  - Clear tape.

