

Years: Nursery - KS1	Total Duration: 2 hours
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Curriculum Links

Plants: 'identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees'

Art and design: 'to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products'

Intended Learning Objectives	Learning Outcomes
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- That the natural environment changes with the seasons, and that these changes are observable
- That natural materials have different colours, sizes, shapes and textures
- To choose and select appropriate natural materials for their model

- to use a range of materials creatively to design and make a tree troll
- to know and name an evergreen tree
- to know and name a deciduous tree

Programme Summary

This fun session teaches children about the wood and its inhabitants as the children search for and make their own trolls. After a short time looking around the centre the children will travel up to the wildlife area to explore the woodland. Environmental games like hug a tree and a mirror walk can be played on the way to the wildlife area. At the woodland the pupils will enjoy a nature walk and collect leaves and seeds etc for their tree troll. Back at the Ecology Centre the children will construct their trolls with the aid of glue and then name them.

Pre-visit Preparation

If you have not visited the centre before a pre-visit is essential.

It helps to brief the children before a visit. Talk through the activities that they will be doing and discuss key vocabulary. What is woodland? What animals might live in a wood? Where do trolls like to live?

Possible teaching ideas, ID and background information on Trees can be found in Resources for teachers

Pre-visit ideas	Post-visit ideas
Story books on trolls and woodland creatures (e.g., Billy Goats Gruff, The Stick Man or Troll by Julia Donaldson).	Material work on what the trolls are made of Creative writing about their trolls. Design a backdrop for their trolls. Material work on what the trolls are made of

Please refer to our Health & Safety Information for Risk assessments and an outline of the school and Ecology Centre responsibilities.