



Getting
CREATIVE
in **NATURE**
WITH WOODS AND TREES
Schools Competition Pack



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Hello...

Welcome to our **Getting Creative in Nature with Woods and Trees Schools Competition Pack**



The Woodland Trust is the UK's largest woodland conservation charity, and our vision is a world where woods and trees thrive for people and nature. We are delighted to be working together with the Urdd to bring you and your Key Stage 2 pupils an exciting opportunity to take part in our fun competitions where they can engage with the outside world, use their skills to explore nature and benefit from a wide variety of learning opportunities linked to the Curriculum for Wales.

This pack contains all of the information you will need to take part in our exciting competitions and we are delighted that this year, Tammie Esslemont, Woodland Trust Youth Council Member, will be judging the children's work and is looking forward to seeing all of the amazing creations from your school.

"I'm truly excited to be involved in this partnership competition with the Urdd this year and I'm looking forward to seeing the wonderful creations from your pupils!

We all know how nature and the outdoors can have positive effects and improve well-being. Engaging young minds in nature is crucial for creating a sustainable future, and I believe this competition will not only be fun and educational but also foster a deeper appreciation for the environment.

I can't wait to see all of their work, which I'm sure will all be amazing. I'll be looking for creative thinking and enthusiasm – let's use creativity to help shape a greener future!"

***Tammie Esslemont
Woodland Trust Youth Council Member***

Taking Part in our Competitions

We would like to offer pupils the chance to take part by choosing from two exciting competitions where they can engage with the outside world, use their skills to explore nature and benefit from a wide variety of learning opportunities linked to the Curriculum for Wales.

There's also a prize for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners!



1

Woodland Words and Images Challenge

2

Explore Different Viewpoints

Outdoor learning has so many benefits, and the natural world is an endless source of fascination...

It's a brilliant place for curious young minds and our competitions can help to improve team working, problem solving and communication. They can increase confidence and self-esteem, boost physical and mental health, encourage social interaction and are a brilliant way to encourage a lifelong love of trees and nature.

Each of our suggested projects can be completed as part of your curriculum – an opportunity to take your normal everyday curriculum and teach it outside, or as extra-curricular activities.

The beauty of teaching outdoors is that the children often do not perceive it as 'learning' and yet they can learn some of their most valuable lessons there.

Our competitions are created to enable all pupils to take part – you can choose to take part in Competition 1, if you are able to access a woodland area or Competition 2, which can take place in any green space around you.

The outdoor areas you use could be very close to the school and within walking distance – it might be the school grounds, a local park, or a nearby patch of woodland.

Taking Part in our Competitions

Curriculum Links and Learning Opportunities



Our competitions provide opportunities relating to the curriculum's six areas of learning and experience:

Expressive Arts

Health and Well-being

Humanities

Languages, Literacy and Communication

Mathematics and Numeracy

Science and Technology



Our competitions also encourage the four purposes of the Curriculum for Wales, encouraging and supporting pupils to become:

Ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives

Enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work

Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world

Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society

Learning objectives:

- **Plan, organise and be creative in order to demonstrate engagement with the world around them**
- **Have fun, explore and work with others**
- **Enjoy real world learning**



Competition 1

WOODLAND WORDS AND IMAGES CHALLENGE



Competition 1

Woodland Words and Images Challenge

Take your class on a woodland adventure and encourage your pupils to capture the experience through art, photography or creative writing – the choice is theirs!



Competition 1

Woodland Words and Images Challenge

Encourage your students to think about how the woodland makes them feel.

Which sounds, sights and smells did they experience?

What did they expect it to be like?

What was their favourite bit?

Your pupils can express their thoughts and feelings in a variety of ways.

Here are some ideas to get them started:

Create a piece of outdoor art using natural items found in the woods.

Record their experiences on audio or video.

Draw or paint a picture of the woods.

Write a poem about the different sights, sounds and smells.

Take photographs of their favourite parts of the wood and write captions about each one.

Competition 2

EXPLORE DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS



Competition 2

Explore Different Viewpoints

Encourage your pupils to look at the natural world from different perspectives.



Visit a wood, a tree or a green space and challenge your pupils to explore it from more than one point of view.



What would a tree look like from a bird's eye view?

Or a bug's eye view?

This activity is a great way to teach children about perspective.



Encourage your pupils to record their experiences through photography.



Competition 2

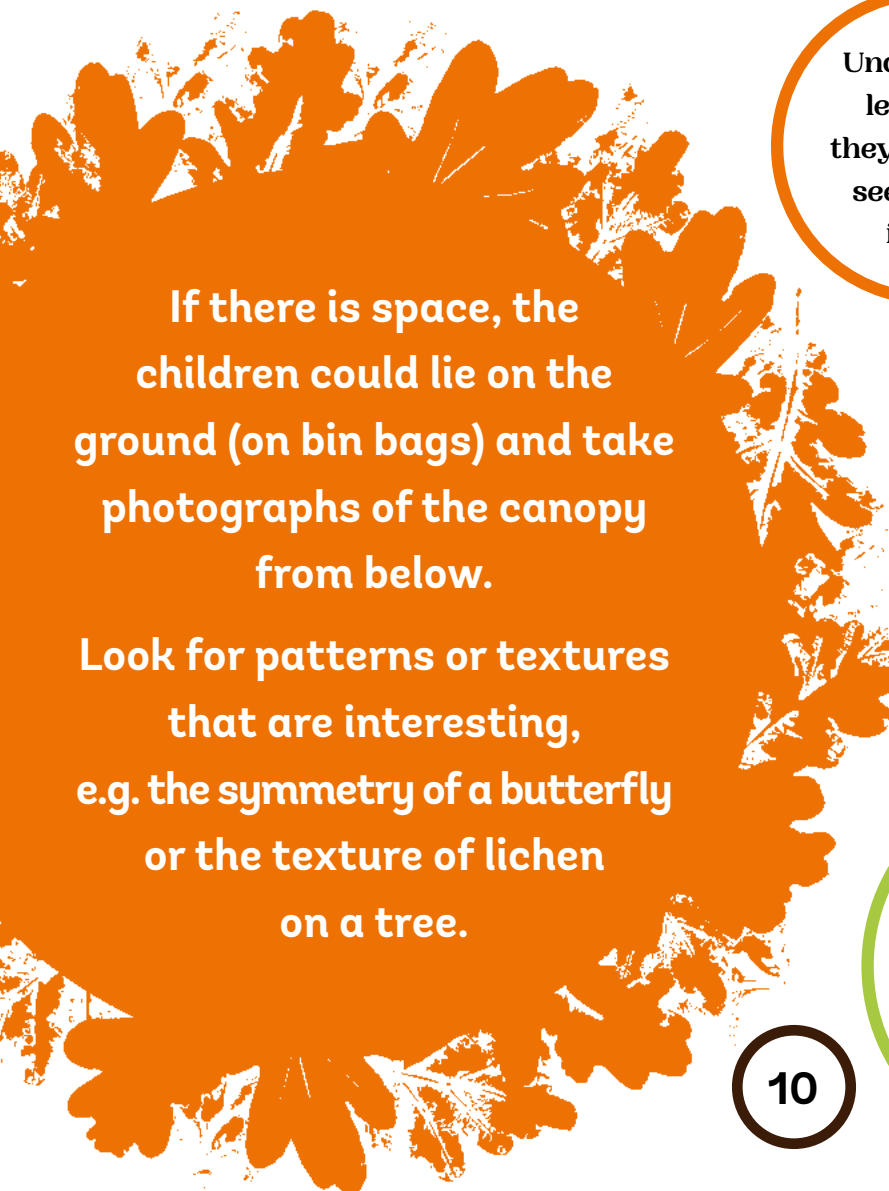
Explore Different Viewpoints

This activity introduces the children to perspective and the idea that we often look at things in only one way. It aims to allow children to see things from a different point of view and show these through photography.

Before the visit you may want to talk to your pupils about how people or animals might see the woodlands differently.

For example a bird's eye view of the woodlands would be very different to a hedgehog's.

Some suggestions could be made to the children about where they might start, they could take photographs of:



If there is space, the children could lie on the ground (on bin bags) and take photographs of the canopy from below.

Look for patterns or textures that are interesting, e.g. the symmetry of a butterfly or the texture of lichen on a tree.



Underneath leaves as they might be seen by an insect

Plants or parts of the tree that we see at eye level

The detail on a flower as a bee or butterfly might see it

Places to hide or find food as they might be viewed by an animal

A stile, wall or fence from above as they might be viewed by a bird or squirrel looking down from a tree

Entering our Competitions



Our competitions open on the 1st February 2024. Pupils can do either competition, or they can do both.



Our competitions end on the 30th April 2024. Once your pupils have completed their projects, please email them by 30th April 2024 to: cystadleuaethcoedcadw@urdd.org



You can send original files if you have worked with photography, audio or video. Otherwise, scan or take a photograph of the pupils artwork and email them to us at:

cystadleuaethcoedcadw@urdd.org

Please make sure your file size is under 15MB. If you experience any problems getting your work to us, then please get in touch at: cystadleuaethcoedcadw@urdd.org



Competitions will be judged by our Woods and Trees panel including Tammie Esslemont, and the winners will be announced during the Eisteddfod week in the Garddorfa.

Future Learning Opportunities

If you and your pupils enjoyed taking part in our competitions then why not find out more about how the Woodland Trust works with schools, and how you can inspire your pupils with fun, practical projects that will enhance their learning about the environment, trees and wildlife.



Green Tree Schools Award

Join more than 14,000 schools taking action to help the environment. Through our award, your school can take part in fun, practical projects while helping the environment and improving your grounds. It's completely free and we provide resources and support to help you get the most out of it.

Your pupils can also earn certificates in recognition of their achievements and a special plaque to display in your school.

Find out more at:

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/award

“The Green Tree Schools Award has helped us do more outdoor learning which has positively impacted the health and well-being of our pupils.”

Anne
Primary school teacher

Future Learning Opportunities

Plant Free Trees with your School

Tree planting is a hands-on way for children to make a real impact on the environment.

- Grow an outdoor classroom.
- Create homes for wildlife.
- Fight climate change.

When your pupils plant trees they'll make a real difference to your whole school and the wider community too.

We've already helped schools plant five million trees across the UK, why not discover how you can get involved.

Find out more at:

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees



Resources and Activities

We provide a range of free materials to help you deliver engaging and memorable outdoor learning.

Tried and tested by teachers, they include tree planting resources, Nature Detectives activities and lots more.

Find out more at:

www.treetoolsforschools.org.uk

“It’s the best fun I’ve ever had!”

*James
aged 8*

Terms and Conditions

Please Have a Read Through our T&Cs



The competitions are open to all KS2 pupils throughout Wales.

Schools will be responsible for using their own equipment for creating their competition entries.

We run a completely 'leave no trace' school event on the environment.

Please ensure all equipment and materials are removed from the outdoor area.

How we use quotes and photos

We like to use comments and photos from schools to inspire other teachers and young people about outdoor learning. With your permission, they could appear on our award materials, website, press releases and social media.

You can find out more about how we use and look after your personal information in our privacy policy.

Permissions

We may use your competition entries in a variety of ways. If you don't want your competition entries used in any of our promotional materials please let us know when you submit them to us.



Woodland Words and Images Challenge

Go for a woodland adventure and enjoy capturing your experience through art, photography or creative writing!

Think about
how the
woodland
makes you
feel



Draw or paint a picture or create a piece of outdoor art using natural items found in the woods.

What sounds,
sights and
smells
are there?



Record a video or take photographs and write captions about each one.



Write a poem or a review of your woodland adventure.



Explore Different Viewpoints

Look at the natural world from different perspectives. Visit a wood or a green space with lots of trees, or even just one tree, and try to explore it from more than one point of view – you'll be amazed at what you can see!



A close-up

Use a magnifying glass to study moss, tree bark or a leaf. If your camera has a macro setting use it to take a close-up photo. **Are tiny details suddenly revealed?**



A bug's eye view

Lie on the floor to see how a beetle or a snail sees the world. Peer through blades of grass and around flower stems.

Do you notice anything you've not seen before?



A bird's eye view

Climb up onto higher ground and imagine you're a bird soaring high in the sky. Look down, what can you see? **How do things look different from a higher perspective?**



From beneath

Have you ever looked at the underside of a leaf or flower? Try it! **How is it different to the side you normally see?**



Record your experiences through photography.



At The Urdd Eisteddfod

This year the 2024 Urdd National Eisteddfod will be held in Maldwyn (Montgomeryshire) and Coed Cadw, the Woodland Trust in Wales will be there too.

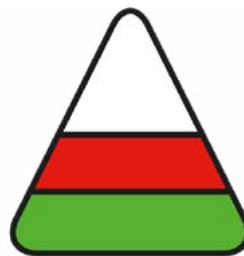
You can find us at the Garddorfa –the eco-friendly wild garden, during festival week.

Why not come along and find out more about how your school and pupils can get involved in our projects and benefit from the great resources we have to offer you.

We'd love to see you!



**COED CADW
WOODLAND
TRUST**



Eisteddfod