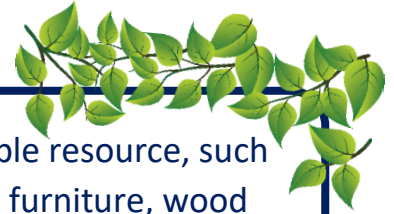


Woodlands, Trees & Forests

Why are trees and forests so important? Read the information below to find out the importance of our woodlands and countryside.



Trees, woodlands and forests provide important habitats for wildlife and store carbon from our atmosphere.



Trees provide a natural renewable resource, such as timber for construction and furniture, wood fuel and many other products.

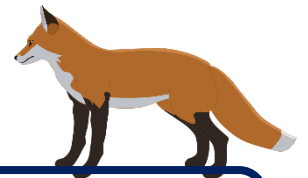
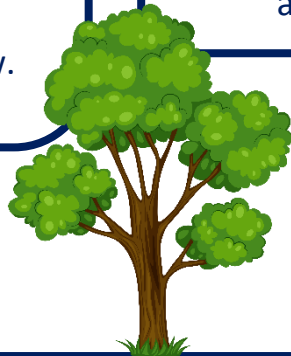


Trees in cities provide shade, reduce wind speed and help absorb some pollution.

Trees, woodlands and forests protect soils and water. Forest hydrology (the management of water in forests) is important in managing water catchment areas and controlling water flow.



Trees, woodlands and forests are important landscape features and provide shelter, visual amenity, and recreation opportunities.



The information provided in this resource was produced by the Royal Bath and West Society Woodland & Countryside Chairman, J.K. Baker



Forest History

Now that you know a little about woodlands, trees, forests and their uses can you do some further research and complete the worksheet below about forest history?

Before man arrived post ice age how much woodland cover do you think there was in the UK in % Have a guess.

The first major land survey was completed in 1086 commissioned by William the Conqueror, can you find out what this was called?

Can you find out how much woodland cover there is in the UK today? Have a guess.

What percentage of woodland cover do you think we had by the end of World War 1 (1918)?



Woodlands, Trees and Forests

What do you think the main causes for loss of woodland are? Let's take a look below at some of the key causes.

Causes of loss of woodland



Cause 1: Clearance for agriculture. This means clearing land for farmers to be able to produce food.



Cause 2: Industry – During the industrial revolution a lot of timber was used for mining to shore up mines that produced coal for industry.



Cause 3: Increasing population and demand for wood products.



Different Types of Trees

How can you tell the difference between different types of trees? Take a look below and read on to learn how you can tell your trees apart!

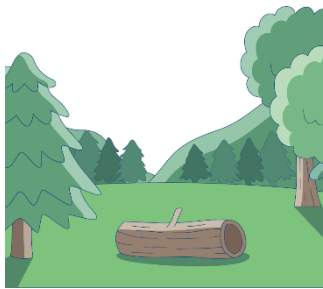
Do you know what a deciduous tree is? It's a tree that loses its leaves each year at the end of the growing season.



Do you know what an evergreen tree is? A tree with foliage which remains green and functional through more than one growing season.



Most broadleaf trees in the UK are deciduous and most conifers are evergreen but not all. Most conifer species are non-native within the UK.



Do you know what conifer means relating to trees?

Trees that are cone bearing.



The Importance of Trees

Why do we need more trees and forests in the UK?



We import £8.5 BILLION worth of timber and wood products and are one of the largest timber importing countries in the world.

We need to maintain and increase important areas of habitat for the benefits of wildlife.



We need to store more carbon to help reduce climate change. Tree woods and forests are an excellent way to do this.

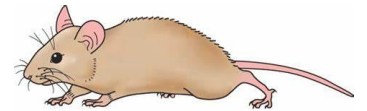
Did you know woodlands and forests provide habitat for many UK protected species.

Such as:

17 species of bats



Dormice



Badgers

