

Meet a Tree

This activity concentrates on the sense of touch.

Take the children to an area of trees. Tell them that they are going to be making a new friend - this will intrigue them.

Use of the children as an example and be their guide.

Blindfold the child and ask them to hold their arms out in front of them. Lead them slowly to a chosen tree.

Explain that the tree is their new friend, and that trees, like the friends in their group, are distinguishable by their individual shape, height and other features. To recognise the tree again they will have to be able to distinguish it from others by it's feel. Allow them to feel the tree, reaching as high up and as low down as they can.

The following questions may guide their exploration.

How wide is the trunk?

the bark rough or smooth?

Can you feel any branches?

Is there any moss on the trunk?

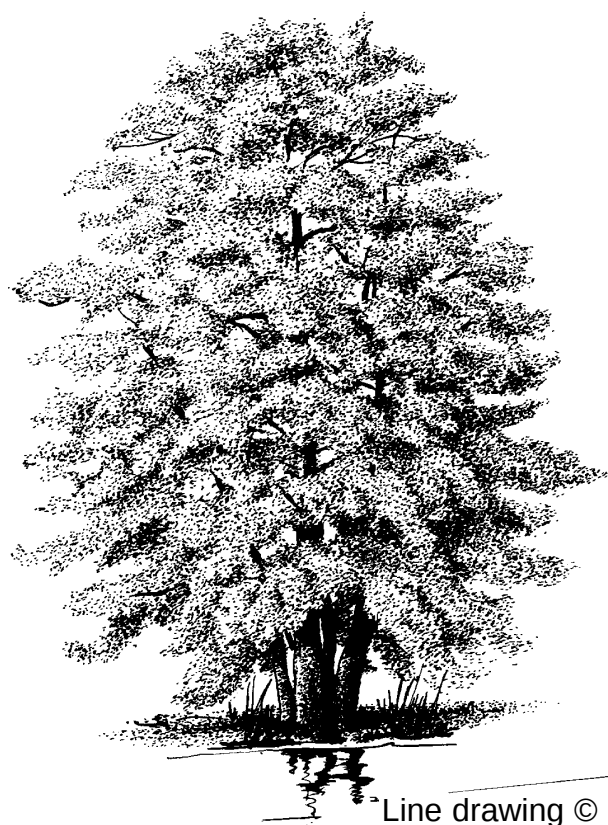
Is any of the bark loose?

Can you feel the tree roots?

Lead the child back and take off the blindfold. Now ask if they are able to find their new friend.

In pairs, the children then find their own trees.

Make sure the child who is guiding looks out for danger such as eye level branches and tree roots. It's a good exercise in trust!



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