











Native and Non-Native trees (School Based Workshop)

Description	Find out the group's knowledge of trees in Ireland Give tree descriptions and draw leaf outlines Find and identify trees on or near the school grounds
Aims	Learn to name and identify common Irish Trees Learn the difference between native and non-native trees
Needed on the day	CSPE Copybook Pencil Whiteboard
Where	Classroom and school grounds
Age group	8 - 16

Timescale and outline of Activities:

Classroom 45 Minutes

-  Present the lesson as a quiz - How many trees do you know?
-  Define a native tree and a non-native tree.
-  Create two columns on blackboard. One for native trees, one non-native trees.
-  Ask students to create the same simple columns in their CSPE copy book.
-  Repeat question to class group "How many trees do you know?" Receive answers on a hand up basis.
-  As each tree is mentioned ask class group whether they think it is native or non-native.
-  Write trees up on the blackboard.
-  Give facts/information on each tree as they are suggested (where they grow, what the timber is used for, what animal uses the tree for food or habitat)
-  Once the group start running out of trees give them suggestions or hints. (Sharp to touch, its name is in a famous children's book - Hawthorn Tree/place you go swimming - Beech Tree).
-  Once this is complete draw some of the tree leaves common to the area / school yard on the whiteboard. If there are no leaves on the trees give other identifying features (the bark is white/silver etc). Ask the students to copy these drawings into their copy books.

LEAF Lesson Plan

NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE TREES



Suitable for
AGES 8 - 16

LEARNING
ABOUT
FORESTS

School grounds 30 Minutes

Take group (with copybooks and pencils) to school yard or nearby park and find/identify trees species which were mentioned earlier.

As each tree is found a tick can be placed next to it in the copybook (stop ticking at ten specimens of the same tree).

Give extra information on each tree as appropriate. Ask students to use their senses in identifying (Oak and ash tree e.g. rough bark. Pine = strong smell, Birch = smooth and paper like. Alder = purple brown colour).

Discuss biodiversity as spotted along the way (birds, insects etc.).

Return to the classroom. Tally up the number trees found. Determine the most common tree in local area.

Project

- ☛ To be completed after School Based Workshop
- ☛ Set the class group a project (in groups of 3/4)
- ☛ Begin with an A2 project sheet
- ☛ Pick a tree spotted whilst out and about (or one discussed earlier)
- ☛ Draw its leaves and seeds
- ☛ Research it/find facts about it (habitat, products, biodiversity)
- ☛ Create a project
- ☛ Leave space on project for extra information learned during LEAF Forest Based Workshop

