



Activity 2 – Recycled art competition: create an animal or tree

Challenge your pupils to create the best woodland animal or tree using recycled materials. Their artwork should also represent a wildlife concern, such as climate change or habitat loss.

Use this activity to fulfil the **Create a tree champion** challenge.

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/act/your-school/green-tree-schools-award/tree-champion/

Worth two points on the award.



Curriculum requirements KS3

Students should have the opportunity to:

- produce creative artwork, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
- use a range of techniques to record their observations in sketchbooks, journals and other media as a basis for exploring their ideas
- use a range of techniques and media, including painting
- increase their proficiency in the handling of different materials
- analyse and evaluate their own work, and that of others, in order to strengthen the visual impact or applications of their work.

Learning outcomes

After completing this activity, students will have:

- created a piece of artwork that resembles a woodland animal or tree made from recycled materials, such as plastic bottles, paper and card
- used their artwork to demonstrate a wildlife concern, such as climate change, human intervention or habitat loss.



Preparation and resources

The following materials will help you deliver this activity successfully.

Outdoors – in a local woodland, park or your school grounds

- risk assessments
- health and safety equipment
- outdoor clothing and footwear suitable for all weathers

In the classroom

- AV equipment to show the film 'What is ancient woodland?'
www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/ancient-woodland/
- art equipment and recyclable materials

Location

Different parts of this activity can be carried out in different places



On a woodland visit

If possible, go to a woodland before the lesson so students can take photographs of nature for inspiration.



In your school grounds or a local park

Alternatively, go into your school grounds or a local park with trees before or as part of your lesson. Sit underneath the trees and discuss why British trees are valuable.



In the classroom

The starter activity, main art project and plenary activity can all be completed in class.



Starter activity (10 minutes)

Watch our video: What is ancient woodland?

Watch the film then discuss these two questions in pairs and feed back to the whole class:

- How is a British woodland valuable for wildlife?
- How is a British woodland valuable for people?

Main activity (40 minutes)

Before the lesson, students should have the opportunity to go outdoors: either on the school grounds, to a local park with trees, or to a local woodland. Students can take photographs of nature and experience a natural environment to inspire ideas for their artwork.

Ask students to bring in recyclable materials from home, for example plastic bottles, cartons, yoghurt pots, egg boxes, card and paper. If this is not possible, provide access to recyclable materials in the classroom.

Ask students to create mind maps of their ideas, showing what animal or tree they would like to make. Students will also need to decide what wildlife concern they wish to communicate with their artwork.

Students will create their pieces of artwork either on their own or in pairs. An example would be a tree sculpture made from plastic bottles, to represent litter left in woods.

Plenary/evaluation (10 minutes)

To end the lesson, ask students to present their artwork to the class and discuss the wildlife concern they have represented.

If this activity has been a competition, the class or school can vote on a winner.



Extension

Recycling can earn you one point on the Green Tree Schools Award. Find out how you can complete our **Recycle in school** challenge here www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/act/your-school/green-tree-schools-award/recycle-in-school/.