

A close-up photograph of several sycamore seeds (samaras) with their characteristic winged structure. The wings are a warm, reddish-brown color, while the seeds are a pale green. The background is a dark, muted green, creating a naturalistic and textured backdrop for the text.

The holiday show

Sycamore class

Science – Forest School

LO: I can find different natural objects in the environment.

To play this variation on the classic Kim's Game, go out and gather a small collection of items from the local environment, like feathers, pine cones, pebbles and leaves.

Your child's challenge is to search the area for the same objects, and then come back to see how many they've managed to collect.

This game will help them develop their memory and observation skills.

LO: I can make a Cairn

- Cairns are man-made towers of natural stones, usually built as a landmark or a memorial, and making them is a great activity for kids.
- All they need to do is gather a range of flat rocks and pebbles in different sizes, and then stack them in order, with the largest at the bottom and the smallest at the top.
- Can they make changes to the structure of their cairn, such as using a foundation of lots of smaller stones, and see if it still stands?
- This improves gross and fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination and concentration as they experiment with finding the stones' balancing points to see how tall they can make their cairn.



Put the stones back after!

LO: I can make a flower crown

This is a lovely activity for creative kids, and gives them opportunities to role-play being fairies, woodland nymphs or royalty.

Go for a walk and collect flowers, leaves and grasses along the way, which your child can then weave into a nature-inspired crown. They could make a classic daisy chain garland or knot grasses to create a wreath.

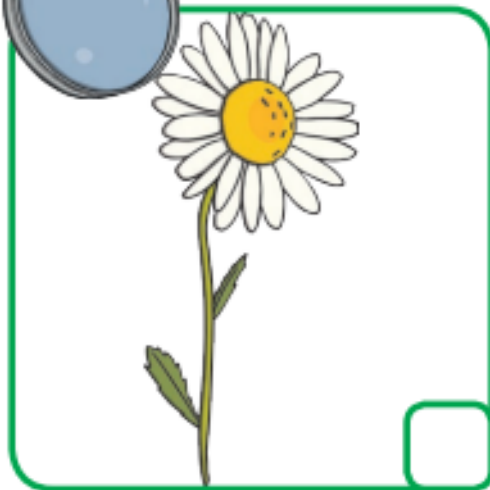
As an add-on learning activity, identify the flowers on your walk.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rp0r7n2EqFs>



Here is a video to help. You need long grass to weave.

Tick the plants and flowers that you have found!



daisy



buttercup



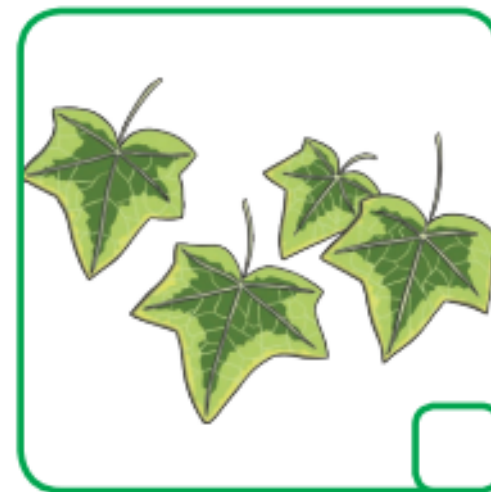
clover



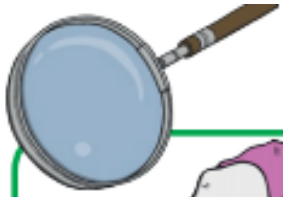
nettle



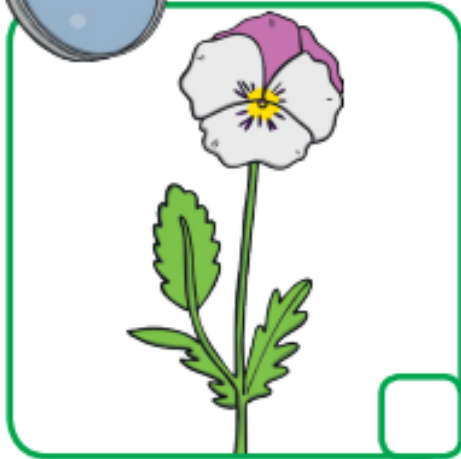
dandelion



ivy



Tick the plants and flowers that you have found!



pansy



thistle



tulip



lily

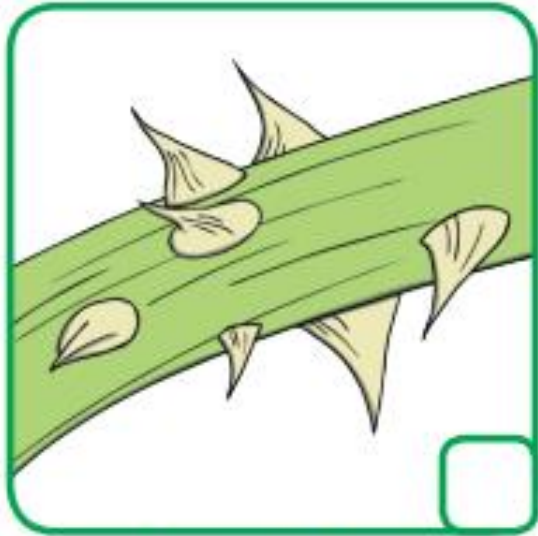


primrose

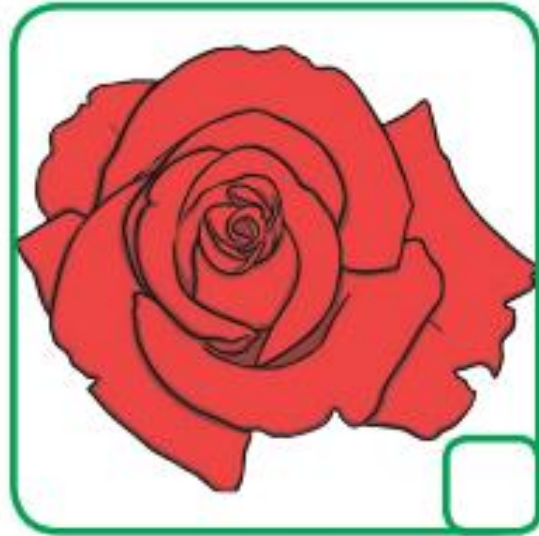


snowdrop

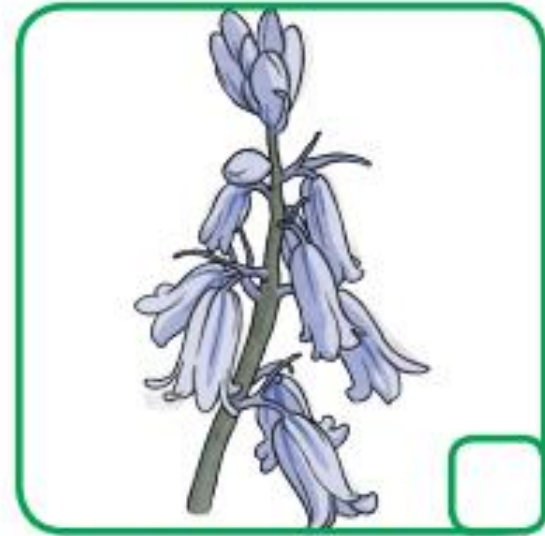




bramble



rose



bluebell



dog rose



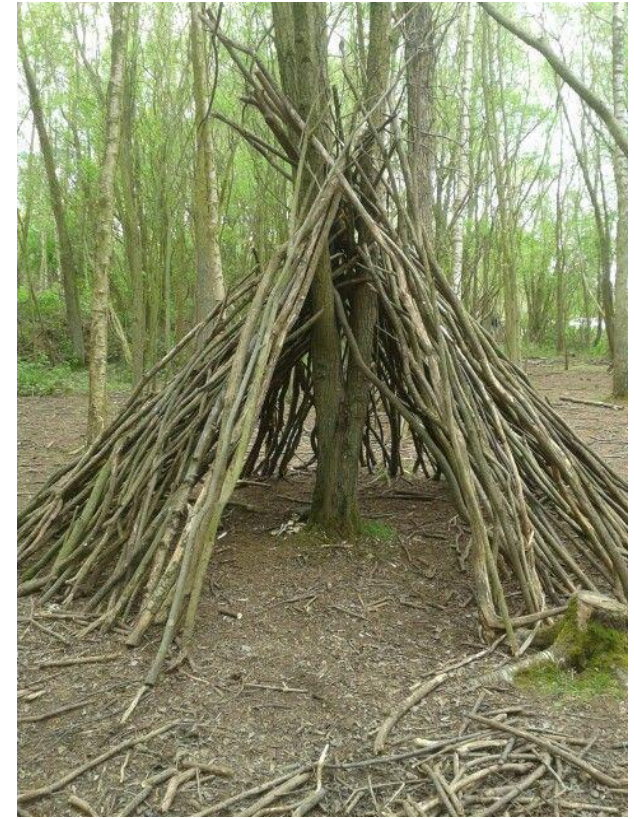
sunflower



poppy

LO: I can build a den

- Building a den is a brilliant back-to-nature challenge that will awaken your child's inner caveman, and it's a great project to get stuck into with a friend or sibling.
- **Find some thick, long sticks and challenge your child to create their own shelter, either by leaning them up against a tree, or by lashing them together with string at the top for a tipi-style den.**
- You could take an old sheet out with you to give their den-building more scope.
- This is a good test of problem-solving skills that involves your child working out how to balance the sticks and make them stay standing, as well as providing an opportunity to be physically active.



Extra activity

Home made bubbles

This hands-on science activity is much more fun than blowing bubbles from a tiny pot.

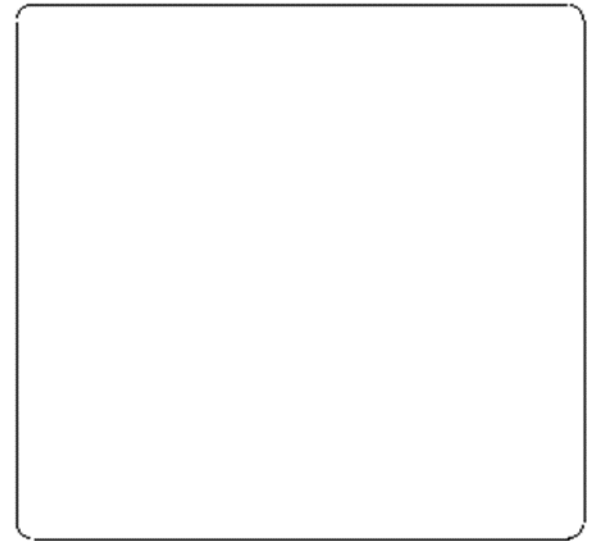
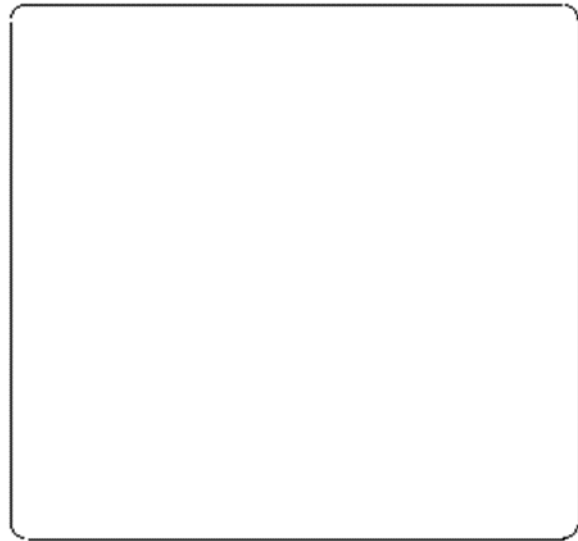
Combine six cups of water, one cup of washing-up liquid, and half a tablespoon of glycerine (the magic ingredient, available from chemists).

Tie a piece of string of any length into a circle, dip it into the bubble mix and waft it around to make giant bubbles.

Your child can experiment with how much to mix the solution to make the best bubbles, and see which weather conditions are the best for bubble-blowing.

The next slides can be used to support your child's learning. Slides 16 and 17 can be used to record your child's work. Take pictures of their work and stick them in the boxes, alternatively record their work in a scrap book.

Use these blank symbol squares to draw visual symbols to help support your child to talk about what they see in the natural environment.

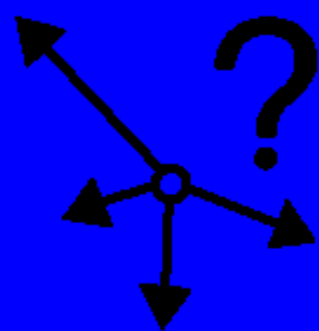




who?



what?



where?



what



doing?

