

Summer of Stories

The Story of Your Tree

An activity by Angela
Stattersfield

Angela's Story Activity encourages you to make your very own tree out of simple materials. She then encourages you to tell the story of your tree.



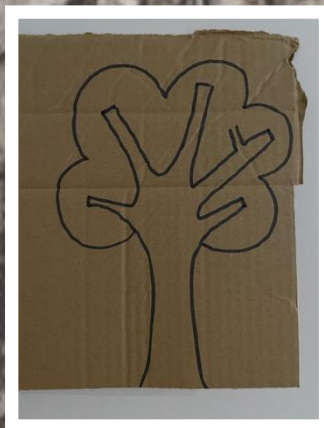
Make a tree and tell its story

Create a cut-out cardboard tree from recycled materials and tell the story of your tree...

On a piece of cardboard (a side of a brown cardboard box is perfect) draw an outline of a tree and carefully cut it out using scissors. You can choose how large to make it.

Your tree may be a tree you know well, it can be one you love to climb or often see from a bus window on a journey or a tree you sit under in a park. Or it can be an imaginary tree or one you have read about in a book or seen in a film.

Your tree could be a Beech tree in Buckinghamshire, a weeping willow by a river, a Baobab tree in Namibia, a tall palm tree on a beach in India or anywhere you imagine!



Did you know that Roald Dahl was inspired to write 'Fantastic Mr Fox' on walks through his local woods in Great Missenden?

The largest chestnut tree in the U.K. can be found at Hughenden Manor in Buckinghamshire. The trunk is 7.33 metres in circumference!

How will your tree look?

A 2D representation to hang on your wall?

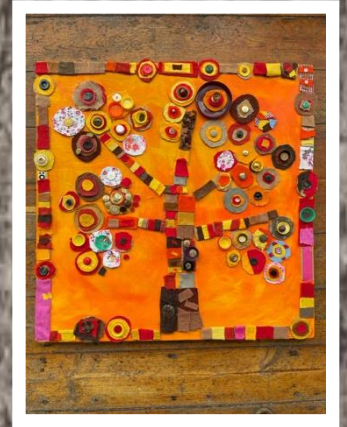
Or,

A 3D sculpture to place somewhere?

You can use whatever you have at home to add colour to your cardboard tree. (Felt tip pens, coloured pencils, crayons or paint).

Or you can collage your tree by cutting out shapes from magazine pages, shiny leaflets or pieces of cereal boxes. Fix these onto your tree using PVC, glue stick or tape.

You can decorate your tree with any other materials you may have at home (scraps of old clothes, wool, buttons, glitter, bottle top lids, sequins).



Make your tree stand up!

- 1: Cut a small rectangle of card with a notch in the top
- 2: Cut a similarly sized notch in the base of your tree
- 3: Slot the two notches together

Keep your tree flat!

- 1: Choose a background onto which you will mount your tree. As examples - a sheet of coloured paper, a piece of painted cardboard or an artist's canvas.
- 2: Glue your tree onto this background

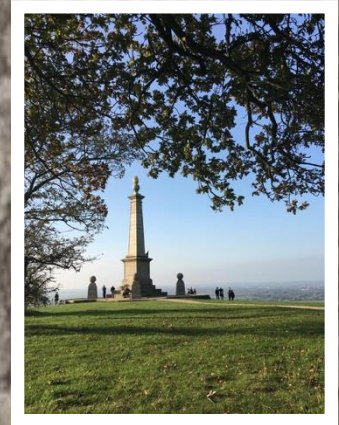
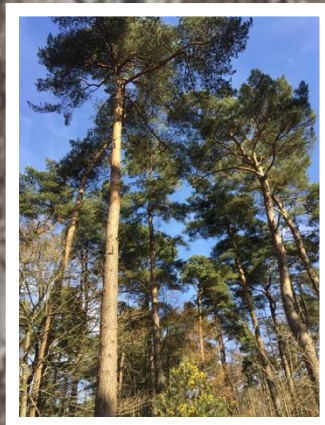
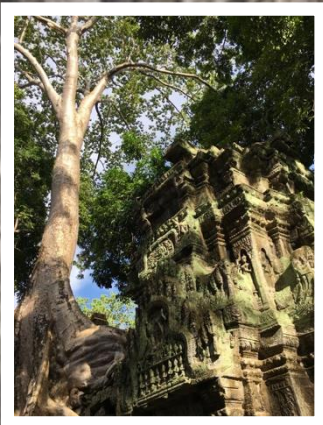
What is the the story of your tree?

If trees could tell us stories of what they've seen and heard...

Look at your tree; imagine its life; create a story or two!

Trees can live a long, long time and will encounter animals, people, other plant life and weather whilst rooted to the same spot.

Your imagination can help you glimpse into the life of a tree, its experiences and maybe help you reflect back on your world from a different viewpoint...



Did someone shelter under your tree on a journey on horseback?

Did the tree watch the bodgers at work in Buckinghamshire, creating furniture out of wood?

Was your tree an apple tree which made the most delicious pies for the family whose garden in which it grew?

Did your tree battle a storm; stand through a moment in history; or is it just beginning its life as a sapling?

Thank you for taking part! We hope you had fun.

You can share pictures of your trees on social media using **#SummerOfStories**

Or via our Story Form on our website:
www.buckinghamshireculture.org/Summer-Of-Stories

You can also learn more about our project and how our artists are taking inspiration from stories shared by people across Buckinghamshire on our website.