

ACTIVITY 3



My Tree

Season	Any
Site	All that have trees
Age Group	4/5 years and above
No. of Children	Any

Equipment Needed: Blindfolds or scarves, pencils, paper.



Safety Notes

Instruct the children to be aware of trip hazards, low branches and any other hazard when leading their blindfolded partner. Ensure that they are moving around the site slowly and carefully. Supervise them closely and if they are very young then pair them up with an adult. Set clear boundaries (within a few metres) of the start so the children will not wander too far or be blindfolded for too long. Some people do not like being blindfolded so be sensitive to this.

Instructions

1. Put the children into pairs
2. Hand one scarf or blindfold to each pair
3. One partner is blindfolded, the other is the leader.
4. The leader chooses a tree and guides the blindfolded partner to it, talking to them to help them over, under and around obstacles on the way.
5. Once they have reached the tree, the leader places the blindfolded child's hands onto the tree and tells them this is their tree.
6. The blindfolded child touches the tree, noting the texture of the bark, the width of the tree, the location of any low branches and the feel of the leaves.
7. Remaining blindfolded, they are led back to the start point and the blindfold is removed.
8. They then try to identify which was their tree by trying to identify the direction they moved in and feeling the trees to see if they recognise 'theirs'.
9. Partners swap over and repeat the exercise.

The activities described below can be carried out with 'My Tree' or as a stand-alone exercises.

Extra Activities: Bark Rubbings / Tree Drawings

You will need the pencil or wax crayon and paper. Place the paper over the tree bark and rub, pressing down quite hard but keeping the paper still. You will have obtained a relief picture showing the pattern of the tree bark.

Draw the tree, showing the shape of the silhouette, trunk, branches and leaves.

