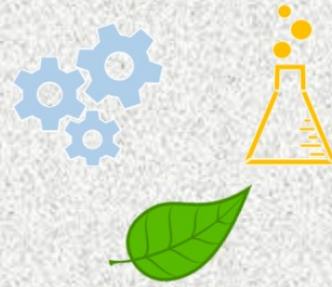


# SIMPLE SCIENCE

Little investigations for big ideas.



Plants fill our world. They are all around us and help everyone to live.



Take a minute: What is a plant? Can you describe one or draw one?



Plants are found all over the world. They can grow wild, without humans helping or sometimes are grown by people for a reason. Why might people want to grow a plant?



Let's begin by looking outside. Can you see any plants or trees? Is it a wild plant that has grown by itself or has it been planted by people?

Follow this [link](#) for help.



**Science: It's simple.**



**Little investigation #1**

- Go for a walk where there are trees.
- Carefully, remove whole leaves from different trees and place them in the plastic bag.
- When you get home, lay a leaf under a piece of thin paper.
- Rub a crayon over the paper, where the leaf is. What do you notice?

Plastic bag Wax crayon Paper **The big idea**

Some trees keep their leaves all year around and are called **EVERGREEN** these are often smaller, thinner or feel waxy. Some trees lose their leaves in the autumn and they are called **DECIDUOUS**.

**Little investigation #2**

- Take your leaves and place them next to your wax rubbing.
- Look at the [identification sheet](#).
- Be a detective. Look at the shape of the leaf, which matches?
- Write the name of the tree type next to the leaf.
- Have a guess, if it a deciduous or evergreen tree?

[Identification sheet](#) Pencil Paper **The big idea**

Each tree type will grow a different type of leaf. We can work out which type of tree it is, by looking at the leaf shape. It is also possible to do this by looking at differences on the trees— bark type, branch shapes.

**Little investigation #3**

- Go back to the place you found the trees in #1.
- Find a tree and identify it from the leaf shape.
- Now look at the bark. Take a rubbing of it using the paper and wax crayon.
- Find another tree type and identify it. Investigate the bark on that. How is it different?
- Find a tree type you've already found using the leaves. Does the bark type match too?

[Identification sheet](#) Pencil Paper Wax crayon Hard book or clip board **The big idea**

Different tree types have different **barks**. This is another way of telling them apart. The trunk of the tree can also tell whether it is old or not. Try seeing how wide the trunk is on two trees of the same type. The fatter one will be older. If you couldn't get your arms around it if you hugged it, it's probably older than your parents!

