

Natural Christmas Scavenger Hunt

A resource from the Field Studies Council

Investigate the school grounds or local green space to scavenge material for a super crafty Christmas decoration making activity.

Think about the animals and birds that might benefit from your decorations this winter.

Identify an area in the school grounds or your local green space in which to complete a scavenger hunt, to try to find natural material that will be useful for decorating a chosen tree in your school grounds. Your chosen tree is ideally small enough for learners to be able to hang things into the branches.

Possible items could be:

- * Red, orange or dark green leaves that have fallen to the ground
- * Cones from Pine, Fir or Alder trees
- * Holly with or without berries
- * Feathers from Jays, Pheasants or other colourful birds
- * Small twigs

Decorations to try:

1. Pine cone bird feeder:

Collect pine cones and use a glue stick or your hands to cover it in vegetable fat or lard. Then roll into bird seed and tie up into the tree with string.



2. Twig Christmas tree:



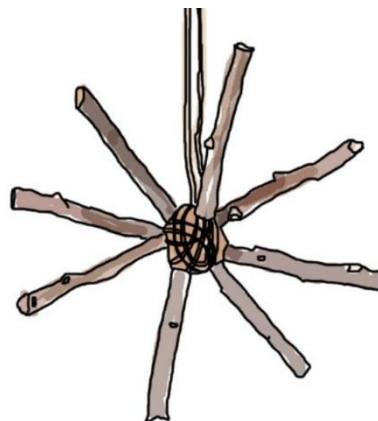
Collect sticks of differing sizes and glue them onto a lollipop stick, even better if the twigs are a range of colours.





3. Star ornament:

Collect some dry twigs and cut them to ensure there are four of the same size (this can be done by the adult with secateurs if needed). You a lump of blue tack to arrange the twigs into a star shape and hold it in place, then wrap red wool around the centre to hold it tight and create a hanging loop from the string.



4. Reindeer head:



If you can find two reasonably similar feathers, pheasant work very well, but any other feathers will do, collect three sticks, one slightly shorter than the other. Tie the sticks together with string and poke in the feathers to form antlers. Glue a Holly berry on to form a nose.

Find your own inspiration, whatever you collect can be transformed into a beautiful and creative addition to your Christmas tree as a decoration. Think about risk assessing any tools or arts and craft activities and how much space and help you will need.

