

Explore
Discover
Understand

BeWILDerwood



Po-e-tree KSI - Literacy activity using a tree as inspiration to create poetry.

Using a real tree in BeWILDerwood for inspiration, ask the children to create their own po-e-tree using descriptive words. On the accompanying worksheet, draw branches from the trunk of the tree and join the words together that best describe the real tree they have seen. Consider the form, shape and size of the tree, the texture of the bark and how the branches reach up to the sky. Draw branches to meet the hanging shoes and make it a special BeWILDerwood po-e-tree!

Worksheet included? Yes.

Children's learning objectives

- To learn to record from first-hand observation
- To identify details of a sensory experience
- To select suitable words and phrases to describe a sensory experience
- To review other children's work and say what they think and feel about it.

What you will need

- Each child will need the supporting worksheet for this activity.
- A camera or video recorder may come in handy. You can then use these to help reviewing the activity back at school.

Groupings

This activity can be completed in small groups (with accompanying adults for help).

Activity

- Look at the surrounding area and ask the children to choose a tree they like. Look at its shape, form and texture. Get to know the tree. Feel and smell the bark. Give it a hug, and maybe stand or lay at the base of the trunk and look up through the branches
- Using their worksheets, ask the children to draw branches from the pictured trunk to join up with the words that best describe their tree



- How many words describe their tree?
- Can the children shape their branches to look like the branches on their chosen tree?
- Join up the hanging boots as well as the words to make a special BeWILDerwood po-e-tree, just like the FarTree near the Slippery Slopes!

Review the activity

- Come together and discuss the trees as a group
- Identify and discuss which words in the po-e-tree poem describe what you can see, hear, feel, touch and smell
- Compare how each description is different or the same.

Further activities for the classroom

- Use the words the children have joined together to write some poetry. Select words from the tree then work out how to join them together. E.g. 'new' and 'curled' could be used to say 'new leaves are curled'
- Make one big po-e-tree as a class and make into a visual display. Select a few words from each of the children's po-e-trees to make a branch on the class po-e-tree. Can you all imagine what the class tree would look like?

Points to consider

- **Wet weather** – If it's wet weather on the day of your visit, you could take a digital photograph of the trees and create the po-e-tree when back at school.

Why not send in a photograph of your class po-e-tree? The Twigg team would love to hear from you and may even put your pictures on the BeWILDerwood website!



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