

Identifying Leaves at Appley Park!

As well as climbing trees, can you identify Appley's plant life?

- ▶ Find interesting leaves at the park
- ▶ Complete a Leaf Characteristic Table
- ▶ Use this to produce a key back at school!

STUDENT INTRODUCTION

- ✓ Work in pairs to collect leaf samples
- ✓ Identify their characteristics
- ✓ Take your findings back to school to develop a leaf identification key

Working in pairs or groups, go and find **one of each** of these leaves

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Beech



Birch



Hornbeam



English Oak



Holly



Lime



Sycamore



Ash

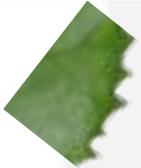
Now complete the table on page 2 ...

NAME:



STEP
2

- For each of the 8 leaves, answer each of the questions below
- Mark the columns with a tick or a cross depending on your answer

Question	Beech	Birch	Horn-beam	Oak	Holly	Lime	Sycamore	Ash
 Does it have edges with prickles, sharp ragged edges or teeth?								
 Does it have lobes?								
 Does it have a simple appearance with smooth or wavy edges?								
 Does it have one main vein that runs all the way through the leaf from the stalk to the tip?								
 Does it have more than one vein that radiates out from the stalk to various parts of the leaf or lobes?								
 Do the side veins come off in 'pairs' at the same points?								

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- Answer the remaining questions for your leaves below
- Take the completed table **and** your leaves back to school where you will use them to prepare a leaf identification key!

Question	Beech	Birch	Horn-beam	Oak	Holly	Lime	Sycamore	Ash
 Does it have side veins that come off the main vein at alternate points?								
 Does it have tiny hairs on the underside?								
 Is the petiole (stalk) coloured or red?								
 Does it have shiny or glossy leaves that appear to be evergreen?								
 Does it have a compound leaf structure with paired leaflets in green, gold, orange or red?								
 Are there flowers or berries on the other parts of the plant?								

