



Make a stick Christmas tree

Subject: Mathematics



Overview

- This simple activity is great for pupils who are learning how to order items by size. The tree creations can then become a focal point for further festive activities.

Learning Outcomes

- To sort objects into size order.
- To explore comparative language in mathematics, including length, height, and mass.

Equipment

- A range of sticks in different sizes
- Leaves, berries, and natural items for decoration

Activity

1. In small groups, ask pupils to collect an agreed number of sticks from around your school grounds or on a winter walk.
2. The sticks should then be sorted into shortest at the top to longest at the bottom and laid down to make a triangle 'tree' shape.
3. Encourage pupils to think about what else is often found on a Christmas tree and add them in, such as a star at the top and a pot at the base.
4. Pupils can use chalk or natural items to decorate the tree.

Further activities

Music	Performance skills	Gather around the Christmas trees and sing Christmas carols
-------	--------------------	---

Literacy and Language	Reading	Sit together and listen to a festive story around the trees
	Descriptive language	Write descriptive sentences about your tree using a range of adjectives, alliteration, or similes
Art and Design	Using different artistic styles	Draw or paint a picture of your Christmas tree, including all the decorations
Science	Electricity	Use bulbs, wires, and batteries to add lights to decorate the Christmas trees
	Biodiversity	Discuss different tree types and why we use evergreen conifers at Christmas
History	Timelines	Research the history of the Christmas tree and how the tradition has changed over time

If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: [tl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training](https://www.tl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training)

