

Lesson 3

Wednesday 5th May

LO: To use a classification table to identify and classify leaves

Under the photograph from your previous lesson, write some sentences to explain what you did.

How to identify trees

All trees have clues and features that can help with identification. You just need to know what to look out for. This quick guide to tree identification will give you a few basic hints and tips.

Basic tree identification tips

The UK has at least fifty species of native trees and shrubs, and many more species of introduced non-native trees.

There are lots of features that give you clues to what species it is.

- **Look at the leaves or needles.** Is it a broadleaf (usually deciduous) or is it a conifer (usually with needles or scales)?
- **Different features will be visible through the seasons.** In winter, for broadleaf trees, you'll have to use twigs, leaf buds and bark.
- **Take notice of the surrounding area** such as hedgerows, fields, parks, woodland or close to water. Some species are more likely to grow near water, in scrubland, parkland or in woodland.
- **Piece the clues together**, including the overall shape and size of the tree, bark, leaves or needles, flowers, fruits, leaf buds and twigs. The more features you can see, the more accurate your identification will be.

Overall appearance, size and shape

Size and shape

Some trees have a distinctive look that can be used to identify them, especially from a distance.

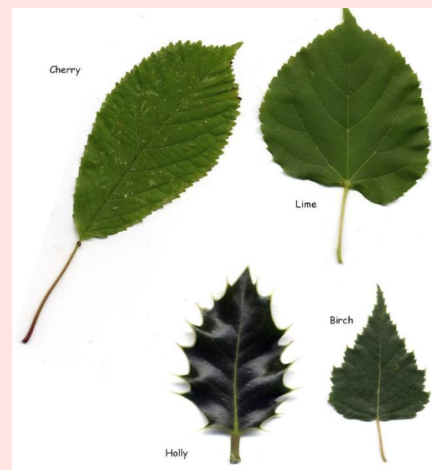
Compare a silver birch, with its narrow shape and light and airy crown, to the broadly spreading crown of an oak.

Overall shape is also useful when identifying conifers. The layers of horizontally spreading branches of a mature cedar of Lebanon contrast with the sparsely branched Scot's pine or densely bushy yew.

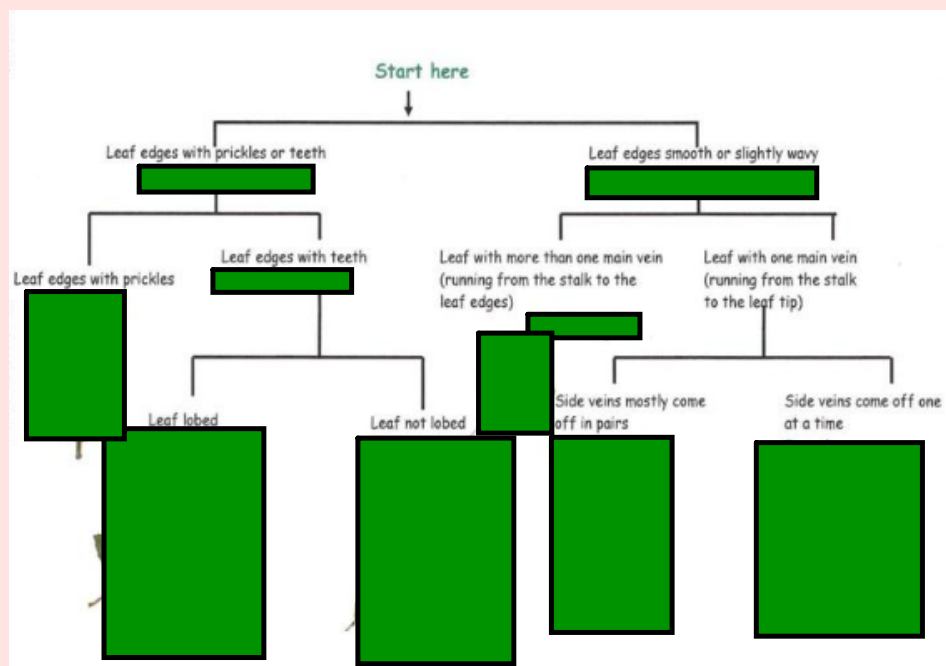
Look for signs of management which can affect the shape. Trees like hazel, hornbeam, beech and willow may have been coppiced or pollarded which can create a tree with many stems, rather than a tall, single trunk.

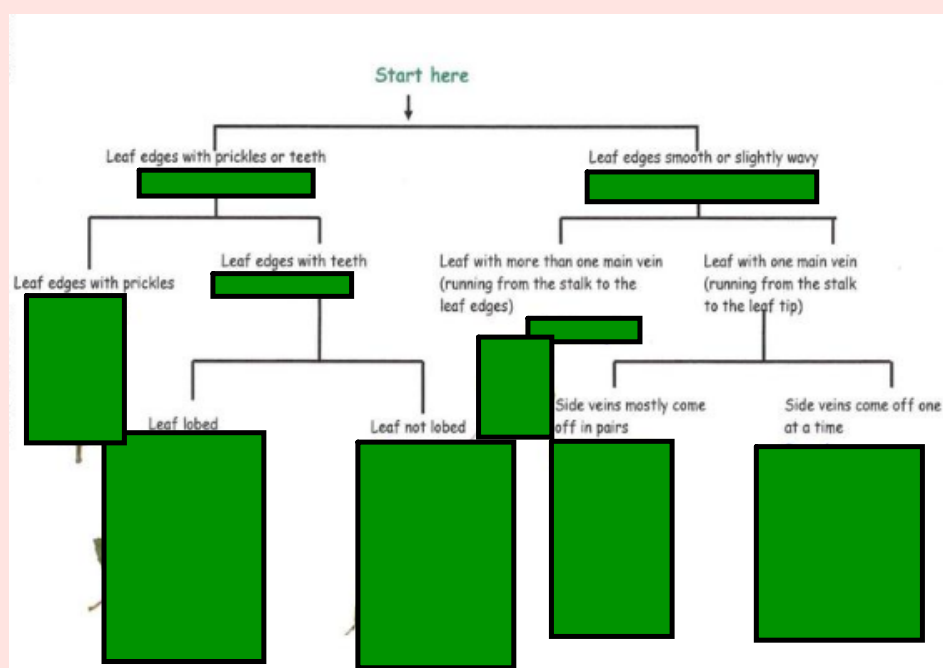
Which leaves/trees did you identify?

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/a-z-of-british-trees/>



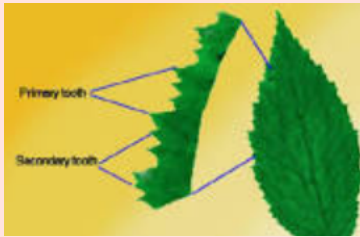
I do





We do

Classify the leaves.
Use your leaf
identification sheet
to help.



veins



glands



How many lobes does each leaf have?

Character	Leaf name					
Leaf is lobed						
Leaf edge has teeth or prickles						
Leaf edge is smooth or slightly wavy						
Leaf has one main vein (running from stalk to leaf tip)						
Leaf has more than one main vein (running from the stalk to the leaf edges)						
Side veins mostly come off the main veins in pairs						
Side veins all come off the main vein one at a time						
Leaf stalk is longer than 1 cm						
Leaf has small bumps on it (these are glands)						
Leaf stalk is red						

You do

Classify the leaves.
Use the table and
tick where
appropriate.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/science-ks1-ks2-comparisons-between-different-types-of-leaves/zndb47h>

