

# LITERACY learning springboards



## Guides to the school grounds using literacy and IT skills

### Ideas for guides to the plants or other features in your grounds

**Aim:** To write an information guide for use across the school (which could include GPS tours)

#### Activity:

When pupils have identified a number of the trees and plants in their school grounds or locality, they can make a guided tour. Help with plant and tree ID can be sought from local experts amongst your staff and school community, as well as reference guides. The guide could also become a legacy document for future year groups to use and add to, building to a comprehensive guide to the plants and habitats in the grounds

#### Information Cards KS2

Pupils can decide what information they would like to write about for each plant. This could include stories, poems, interesting information.

A great source of information for finding out what is growing in your grounds is the woodland Trust Nature Detectives ID sheets as well as the Pappus Fact Sheets resources.

If pupils make simple laminated cards for each plant these could be used as prompt cards for them to guide family members around the grounds during a school open day, or can be left hanging on the plant for others to enjoy and learn from as they walk past.

Over time the school could collect this information as a site 'flora' for future cohorts to use, enjoy and add to.

**GPS tour KS3.** As part of an ICT project pupils can photograph and tag places using their smart phones, with associated information to make a bespoke interactive site 'Flora'.

**"Ed Graffiti" KS2** Another variant on the 'tour' is to use chalk to write the names of any plants that you identify that are close to a tarmac or concrete path or playground, or just label them boldly with hanging tags for all to see.



#### Resources:

Pappus plant factsheets, trump cards and other plant ID guides

#### Success criteria:

- ✓ I can use a range of texts to gather Information on a variety of plants
- ✓ I can present my work in ways that other people can understand



Woodland Trust  
Nature Detectives

