



Teacher Tips

Before You Start

Ask children to bring an object from home. From these they are going to attempt some initial simile work. Using the 'five senses' technique, have children place their objects in a close box so others cannot see. Orally, get the children to describe what their object is like: smells like, feels like etc

Possible Problem Areas

Firm guidance will probably be needed on exactly what objects might be brought into school - you may prefer to choose these yourself! As in any imaginative activity there will be many who will write down only their first responses to the five senses activities.

Objectives

To develop skills of description through simile work.

The Next Step

It is now time to take the children out into the playground to find some trees! Having already worked with the structure of a simile, ask them to fill in the pupil worksheet. They may want to place several ideas into each box and extend these onto rough paper. Bark rubbings are a good place to start in order to get the children to think about the texture of their tree.



And Finally ...

Read the poem. Get the children to pool their ideas in small groups and to choose two from each person. They are now ready to put this together as a group poem piece. And finally ... use the objects the children brought in to make a display area. Label these with the different responses from each child.

Trees

My tree's taller than a giant
it's wider than a bus,
it's larger than our football team -
ten times the size of us.

It's rough like a hedgehog
with skin all brown and hard,
it stands like a lamppost
or a soldier left on guard.


It creaks in the wind
like an old rocking chair,
it rustles as you pass
to let you know it's there.

It's older than my grandad
it's wiser than us all,
our tree in the garden
stretching high and tall.



To Do!

Choose a tree. See how many of the boxes you can fill with your own similes. Visit other trees so that you can fill as many boxes as possible. Do not write down the first thing which comes into your head. Consider your answers carefully and take plenty of time to stop and stare at your tree. Now put your ideas into sentences.

It's older than	It stands like a
It's wider than a	It makes a noise like
It's taller than a ...	It's rough like a.....
It smells like a	

My bark rubbing	My leaf rubbing
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Poetry Points from Children's Poet

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