



Put your hand up if you like Science.

What is STEM?





What is science?

Where is Science?



When does it happen?



The CREST Awards scheme is the British Science Association's flagship programme for young people, around **40'000 students** in the UK gain CREST Awards every year. It is the only **nationally recognised accreditation scheme for STEM project work** (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects, providing science enrichment activities to inspire and engage.





You're going to become a Crest 'Super Star'.

To achieve your award you will complete 8 challenges at home. You will have access to an activity card. This will give you details of what you need to do to complete your award.





You're going to become a Crest 'Super Star'.

On completion you will receive a certificate and badge to say you have achieved the Crest Super Star award!





How will it work?

You will be set the challenges as homework. Your teacher will explain what the activity is for that challenge. You will be able to access the activity card on the school website. You can also see these on the Crest Awards website.





What will I need?

An enquiring mind and lots of enthusiasm.
Most challenges will require some research this can be from the internet or books. You may need to carry out questionnaires you can do this with your family and by asking your friends in the playground. If you need any resources that you do not have think of a creative way to think about the challenge instead.

What does it look like?



SUPERSTAR

A Special New Tree Activity Card

Dear Investigators,

We are going to plant another tree for future generations to enjoy. There is a special green space for it in the town. But what tree should we plant? Can you help us to decide?

C. Ferr

Connie Ferr
Treedwell Council

Your challenge

The local council in the town of Treedwell is planning to plant a new tree. Can you help them to decide which tree?

You will need to think about the different things people in Treedwell want from the tree:

Local resident one: "I think it should provide good places for plants and animals to live."

Local resident two: "It would be nice if the tree could look interesting all year round."

Local resident three: "Could we have one that gives lots of shade?"

Local resident four: "I think it should be a native tree."

Discuss

Think about trees that you like.

How will you decide which tree is the best suited to the town of Treedwell?

Getting started

You could do some research about different kinds of trees. There's a simple guide to trees on the internet at www.opalexplornature.org/crest and <http://trees.luidp.net/en/index.php>

Do you have an idea about how you can investigate which tree to plant? Maybe you could do a survey to find out what other people think about trees.

Test your ideas

Here is a survey you could use to find out which trees your family and friends think would be good to plant in a town centre. Can you think of any other questions to add to the survey?

Name: _____

1. If you could choose a new tree to plant in a town centre what would it be?

2. Why would you choose that tree?

Tick one or more boxes.

☐ It provides a home for animals and plants

☐ It gives lots of shade

☐ It looks interesting all year round

☐ It's a native tree

Another reason _____

Share your ideas

Which were the most popular trees in the survey?

What did you learn about trees?

Is there a tree that fits in best with what the people of Treedwell want?





SUPERSTAR

A Special New Tree

Organiser's Card



About the activity

This activity is designed to get children thinking about different types of trees and their different characteristics.

The local council in the town of Treedwell is planting a new tree in their special green space. However, they're not sure which tree to plant and need a little help deciding. Lots of local residents have different ideas of what they would like from a tree.

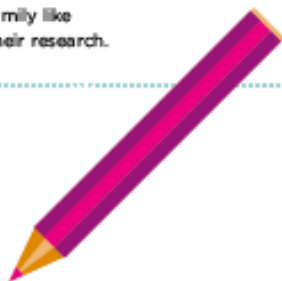
Through this activity you will support your group to:

- Research different kinds of trees and their characteristics
- Do a survey to find out what tree characteristics their friends and family like
- Write a letter to Treedwell council to recommend a tree based on their research.

Kit list

- Access to the internet
- Plain paper to draw up the survey
- Tree guides to identify a range of trees and describe their characteristics

- Clipboards
- Pencils



What to do

1. Introduce the activity using the 'letter' from Treedwell council.
2. Give out activity cards and equipment to the children.
3. Explain that they will be conducting a survey to find out which characteristics different people like in trees. They will then need to do some research, using the tree guides or the website links on the activity card, to find out different characteristics of different trees, to decide which tree would be best suited.
4. Encourage children to discuss their ideas. Prompt questions:
 - What questions will they ask in their survey?
 - Who will they ask?
 - How will they record their results?
 - How will they make sure they get a range of opinions?
5. Support children to conduct their surveys and make their own records of their results. They could use the data they collect to make a table or a graph.
6. Ask the children to present their findings to the rest of the group, they can be as creative in their presentation as they want.

Things to talk about

Children may not know the names of trees. You can help them by providing access to simple identification guides.

You can obtain a simple tree identification guide from www.opalexplornature.org/crest

Take it further

Encourage the children to use a range of different ways to find out which tree might be best.

If they use the survey on the ACTIVITY CARD, encourage them to add, change or delete questions, and think about who to ask.

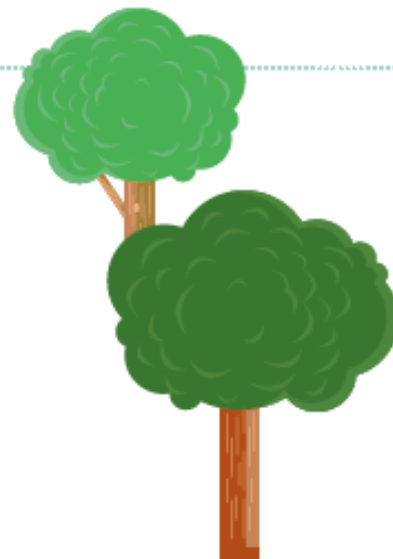
Encourage the children to make their own records, such as a table or a block graph.

Keywords

- Survey
- Ecology
- Evergreen
- Native
- Habitat

Watch out!

Remind children not to approach strangers to get them to complete the survey, unless they are accompanied by a responsible adult.





You will find all of the activity cards and the link to the Crest Awards web page on the school website.





Enjoy and be creative!!!

I look forward to seeing your work.

