

Bruce Castle Tree Trail



Bruce Castle
MUSEUM



For this trail you will
need: paper

wax crayons

string

ruler

You can pick these up at the
museum before you start.

Come along and explore
our special tree trail
and see how many exciting
things you can find out in
Bruce Castle Park and Museum!

Q.2

Why do you think conkers and beech nuts are covered in prickles?

Funky Fact: Beneath the sticky buds on Horse Chestnut branches there is a mark shaped like a horseshoe. This is how it got its name!

How many different types of tree seeds can you find on the ground?

SPY

Do it!

Find a tree and place some paper on the trunk. Use the crayons to make a rubbing of the bark.

See how many weird and wonderful patterns you can get.

Q.1

What sort of creatures live in trees and why?



Funky Fact: Yew wood is dense, but also very bendy. In the past it was used to make long bows, spears and dagger handles.



a squirrel



a bird



a nest

Can you find these? (tick the boxes)



mushrooms



a snail shell



some lichen or moss

Q.3

Can you work out which is the oldest tree in the park?

Funky Fact: Trees called London Planes are often planted in streets, because they can cope with pollution from traffic fumes. They do this by shedding bark which means the tree's breathing pores don't get blocked by soot and grime.

Do it!

Find out the age of a tree!

Using a ruler and string measure around the trunk at a height of 1.5m. Divide the number of cm by 2.

Funky Fact: Thin sheets of beech wood were once used as paper. The name beech comes from the Norse 'buche' or 'bok' which means book.

Q.4

Do you know when and why a tree loses its leaves?

Do it!

Collect a large number of fallen oak leaves. Count the number of lobes on each leaf and group them.

What is the average number of lobes?

Q.5

We have mouths, but how does a tree eat and drink? (Clue: it also helps stop the tree from falling over)

Do it!

Mini beast hunt. Place a large sheet of paper under a tree and gently shake a branch. Write down what insects fall out.

How many different types of mini beast live in different trees?

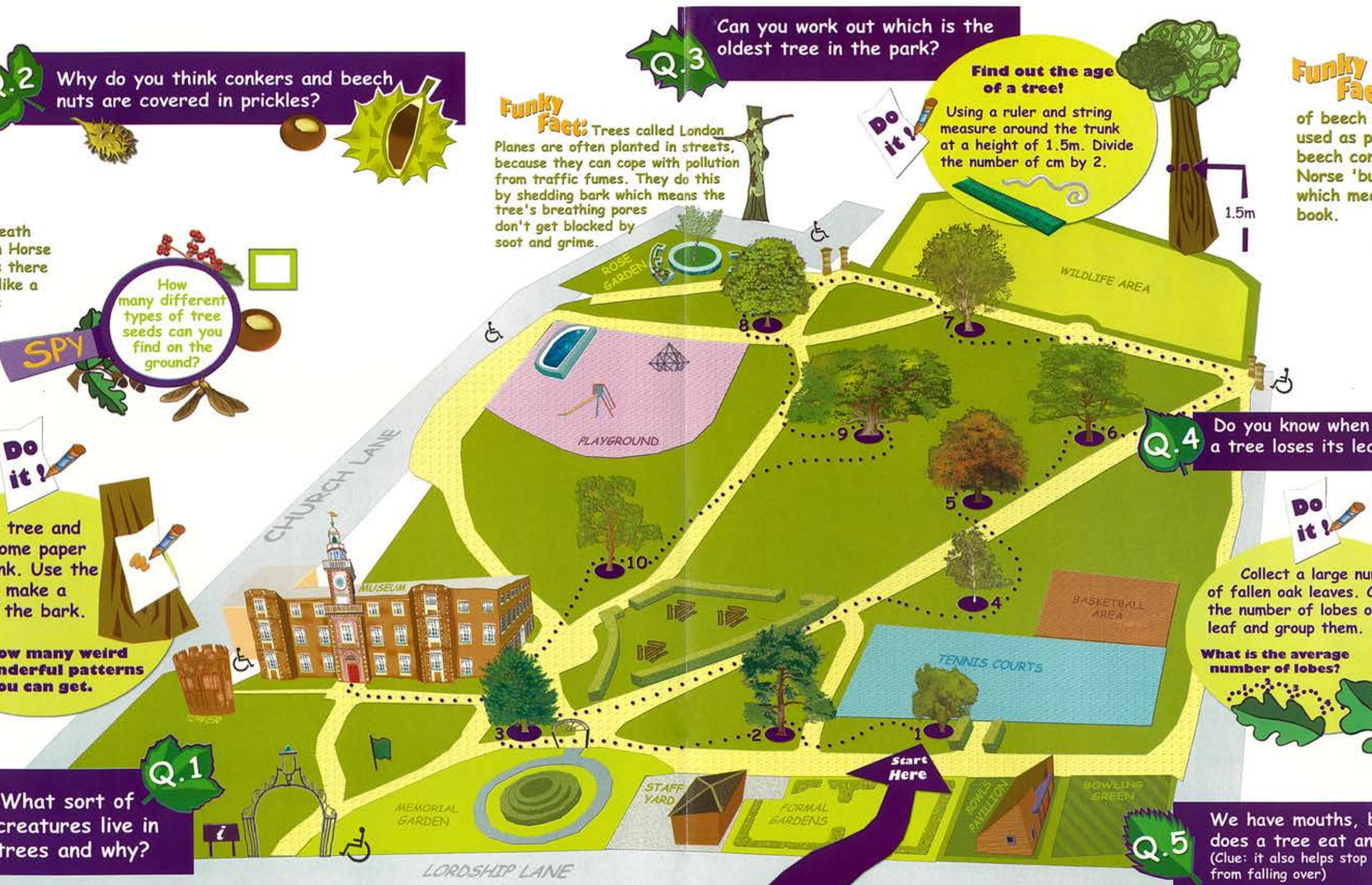


Funky Fact: Trees have many other uses too. They can be used for furniture, toys, packing crates, paper pulp, boats and even houses!



Bruce Castle Tree Trail

Answers to the questions can be found on the insert



...Back at the Museum



Wood from trees can be used in lots of ways. How many things made of wood can you spot inside the Museum? Make a list. See if you can also find some tools used for woodwork.

SPY

Do it!

Find the Spurs clock and look at the wooden carvings. How many creatures can you find?

Funky Fact:

Did you know archaeologists and historians can date the wood used inside a building? Every year a tree grows an annual growth ring inside the trunk. These can only be seen when the tree is cut down. Every ring is slightly different and you can count the rings. Rings found on wooden beams or floorboards can be studied by specialists and dated. This is known as **dendrochronology** or tree ring dating.



SPY

Now go upstairs to the back gallery. Can you spot some more wooden carvings?

Can you find on display a well-known local story about an interesting group of trees? (Clue: a tube station is named after them)

Q.6

Staying in the back gallery, look down. Can you find something else made of wood? How old do you think it is?

SPY



Well done! You have completed the Bruce Castle Tree Trail

If you enjoyed the Tree Trail here are some further activities

- Imagine you are a creature that lives in Bruce Castle Park. What would you do? What would you eat? What other creatures would you meet? Write a story about it.
- Find out how trees reproduce! Ask an adult, a teacher or look it up in your local library and then find the trees which produce the following: acorns, beech nuts, conkers, seeds, berries, cones.
- Think of all the things you have seen and learnt on the trail and have a go at writing a Tree Trail poem.

Contact Details:

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For further information relating to any of Haringey's parks and open spaces please contact the Parks Customer Care Line on 020 8489 1000

Useful Websites:

www.haringey.gov.uk
www.ttfh.org.uk
www.btcv.org
www.woodland-trust.org.uk
www.teachingtrees.org.uk
www.forestry.gov.uk