



Tree Council
of Ireland

Lots of animals and creatures love to find shade under the tree during the hot days of summer.

There are several sorts of flowers that can occur on trees. Catkins are dangling flowers whose pollen is blown by the wind.

Brightly coloured flowers with petals are pollinated by insects visiting to collect nectar.

Deciduous trees drop their leaves every year as they prepare for the winter months.

Coniferous trees keep their leaves all year long.

The leaves are where the tree makes its food. Using rainwater and sunlight for energy, carbon dioxide from the air is broken apart.

The carbon is stored as food and the oxygen is released. This is called photosynthesis

Just underneath the bark is where the most important living cells are.

This is where the food travels down from the leaves and where the water travels up from the roots.

OUR FRIEND THE TREE

Leaves have an important chemical inside of them called chlorophyll which is what makes them green, and is also what allows them to conduct photosynthesis.

Birds and squirrels build nests in branches or in holes in the tree trunk. The tree is a habitat for wildlife.

Caterpillars greenflies and shield bugs feed on the leaves and in turn are food for ladybirds, spiders and birds.

Seeds can be borne in berries or as grow as nuts. These are spread by birds and mammals.

Other trees have winged seeds which are scattered by the wind.

The roots anchor the tree firmly into the ground.

Soil organisms such as earthworms decompose fallen leaves into compost.

Water is absorbed from the soil into the tree through the roots and travels upwards through the trunk to the leaves

Mycelium is the part of the mushroom under the ground. Trees use this network of fungal threads to communicate with each other. The Wood Wide Web!

The roots store essential food and nutrients for the tree preparing for the colder, harsher winter months



National Tree Day 2022