



WHY USE TREE TOP JUNIORS TO DEVELOP PUPILS UNDERSTANDING OF MATERIALS?

TTJ is a brilliant example of the appliance of science, particularly in terms of material selection. Encourage your pupils to describe and explain the materials used throughout, linking these choices to their characteristics and properties. Also, examining the blend between man made and natural materials.

GO BITESIZE

- Make a list of 10 different materials used within the Tree Top Junior course – can these be classified (for example, man made and natural, flexible and rigid).
- Predict the problems that may be encountered during the winter months and explain why Go Ape is closed.
- What problems might occur in the summer in terms of the materials used on the course?
- Experiment the effect of galvanising steel in terms of preventing rusting.
- Whilst on site, play a version of 'scavenger hunt' where pupils have to take photos of different materials being used for different purposes. Pupils to prepare a power point presentation linking the material selection to its usage.
- Mystery – how does Go Ape maintain the course within a living, growing forest? (Teacher clue, you may be able to spot adjustable braces on the tree to allow for an increase in trunk diameter)

GO PROJECT

Investigate different materials and identify the most suitable for making a harness. Pupils should design a series of fair tests to identify the best material.

Possible lines of enquiry could be:

- How does changing the material affect its strength?
- Which material is the least absorbent?
- How comfortable is the material to grip?
- Which material is the easiest to tear?

**YOU
ACED IT!**