



GO EXPLORE... MATERIALS

WHY USE TREETOP ADVENTURE TO DEVELOP PUPIL'S UNDERSTANDING OF MATERIALS?

Our Treetop Adventure course is a brilliant example of the appliance of science, particularly in terms of material selection and the understanding of materials. 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 ten different materials used within the Treetop Adventure course. Can these be classified (e.g. man-made & natural, flexible & rigid...)?
- Predict the problems that may be experienced during winter months and explain why Go Ape has a shutdown period. Not all of our sites close over winter, this could be a great example to understand the differences between the courses and the reasons why.
- What problems might occur in the summer in terms of the materials used on the course?
- Experiment the effect of galvanising steel to prevent rusting.
- Whilst on site, play a 'scavenger hunt' where pupils have to take photos of different materials being used for different purposes. When back at school, pupils can prepare a presentation linking the material to its usage.
- Mystery - how does Go Ape maintain the course within a living, growing forest? Teacher clue: you may 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!