







Tree Fact Guide

Six Trees found at Nower Wood

<p>Beech</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beech trees are deciduous but young trees will hold their leaves over winter, even after the leaves are dead • The leaves are oval shaped and have wavy edges • The bark is smooth and grey and wrinkles around joints like elephant skin • In the spring before the leaves open, the buds are long sharp points like spears • Beech nuts grow in rough brown cases that open like little pixie hats • The seeds are dispersed by animals like squirrels which collect the nuts and bury them for later, the forgotten nuts grow!
<p>Silver birch</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silver birch trees are deciduous and lose their leaves in the winter • The leaves are diamond shaped with toothed edges • The leaves look like confetti when you look up from the ground • The bark is white or silver and cracks into brown ripples as the tree gets older • These trees have thin trunks as they are quick growing and head straight for the light • Silver birch seeds are tiny (only 2-3mm) with two wings which help them to travel with the wind up to a mile from the parent tree
<p>Scots pine</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scots pine trees are evergreen lose leaves gradually, all through the year • The leaves are long and thin and called needles • The leaves grow in pairs like a V shape and are slightly twisted • The bark is very chunky and looks like camouflage patterns • The bark at the top of the tree is orange and it gets darker nearer the ground • This tree's seeds grow inside cones – look on the floor for pine cones • When the pine cones ripen, the scales open and the seeds are wind dispersed

<p>Sweet chestnut</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweet chestnut trees are deciduous and lose their leaves in the winter • The leaves are long and shaped like feathers with toothed edges • The bark is deeply ridged and often has diamond shaped ripples • Chestnuts grow inside prickly cases to stop animals getting to them too early • Like with beech nuts, the seeds are dispersed by animals which stash them for later and forget a few which germinate in spring • Horse chestnut trees are similar and they grow the conkers that children play with in the autumn; the seeds have harder shells with fewer spikes
<p>Hazel</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazel trees are deciduous and lose their leaves in the winter • The leaves are round with toothed edges and a pointed tip • You might find hazel nuts on the twigs or the ground • The bark is smooth with little flecks • The twigs grow with a slight zig-zig shape • Hazel trees have lots of stems shooting up from the ground • They are often used for coppicing which is where people chop the stems for wood and lots of new stems grow back • The seeds are dispersed by animals similar to the beech and chestnut trees
<p>Holly</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holly trees are evergreen have dark green waxy leaves • The leaves have prickles to stop herbivores eating them • In early summer they have small white flowers • Unlike most plants, holly trees are either male or female – only the females have berries in autumn and winter • The seeds are dispersed by animals like birds which eat the berries and poo the seeds out somewhere else