

1st & 2nd Class
History



Importance of Trees

Today Múinteoir Ray told us all about **trees** - the importance of them in our lives. They give us so much - for example; building materials and fresh air. For environmental reasons, **we need to conserve trees now more than ever.**

We also looked at how names of trees are often part of place names all over Ireland.

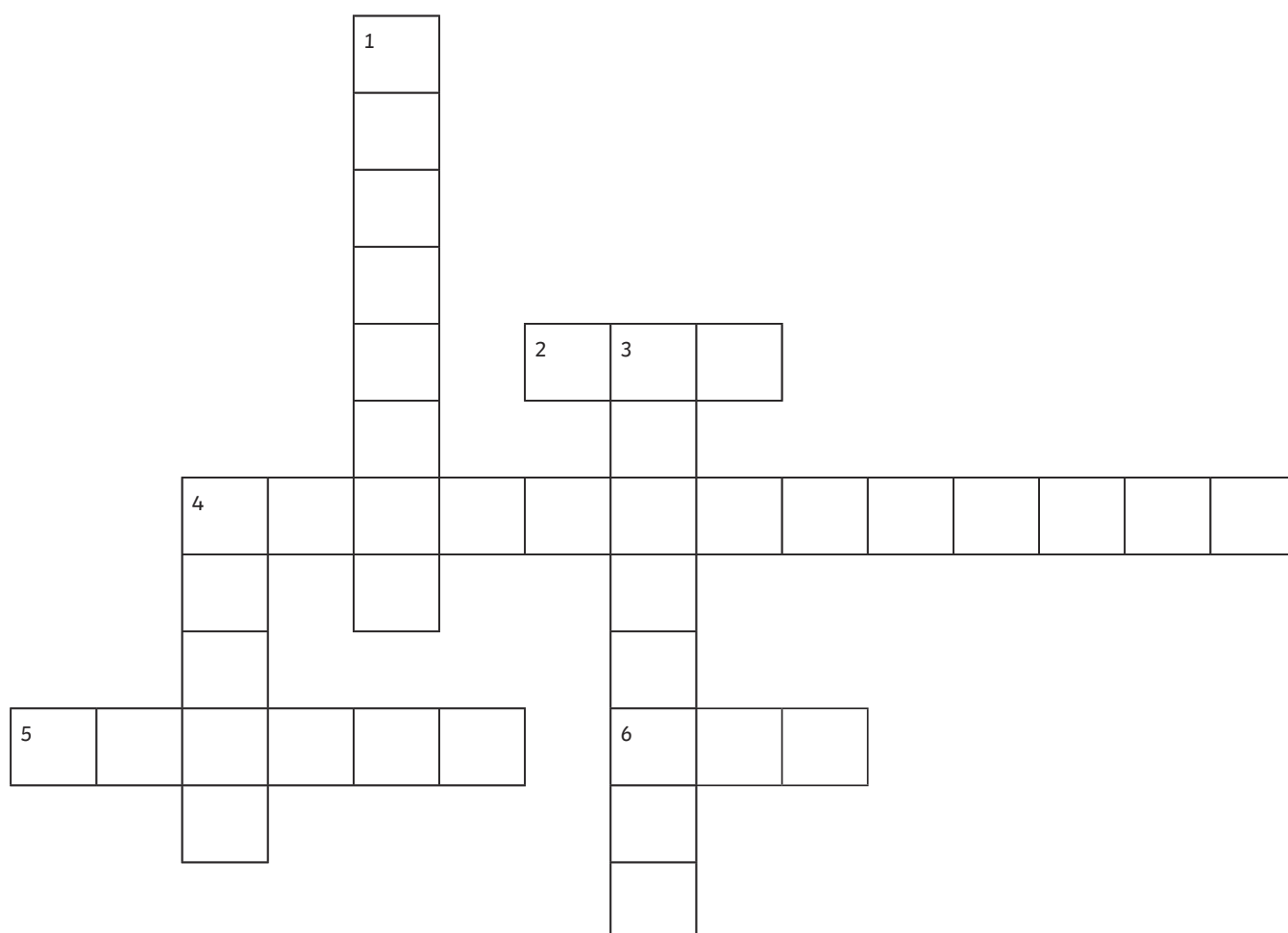
Múinteoir Ray also told us about the cool customs around certain trees!





Crossword

Let's refresh our memories by completing this tree-themed crossword!



Across

2. The wood of this tree is used to make hurleys.
4. Children collect the fruit of this tree to play conkers.
5. This tree's bendy branches are traditionally used to make woven baskets.
6. This native tree is known for its fruit, the acorn.

Down

1. This tree is known as the 'fairy tree'.
3. These trees live for about 150 years.
4. This tree is often seen in homes around Christmas.



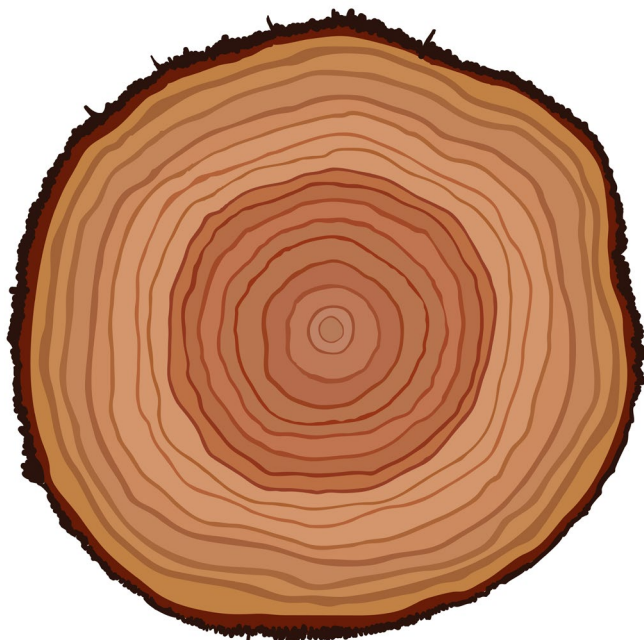
The secrets trees keep...

Múinteoir Ray told us how ancient trees, perhaps hundreds and hundreds of years old, have borne witness to so much history.

And if they could talk, what **amazing stories** they would tell us!



We learned the **rings** you see on a tree stump tell us the history of that tree - how old the tree is, and what the weather was like during each year of the tree's life.



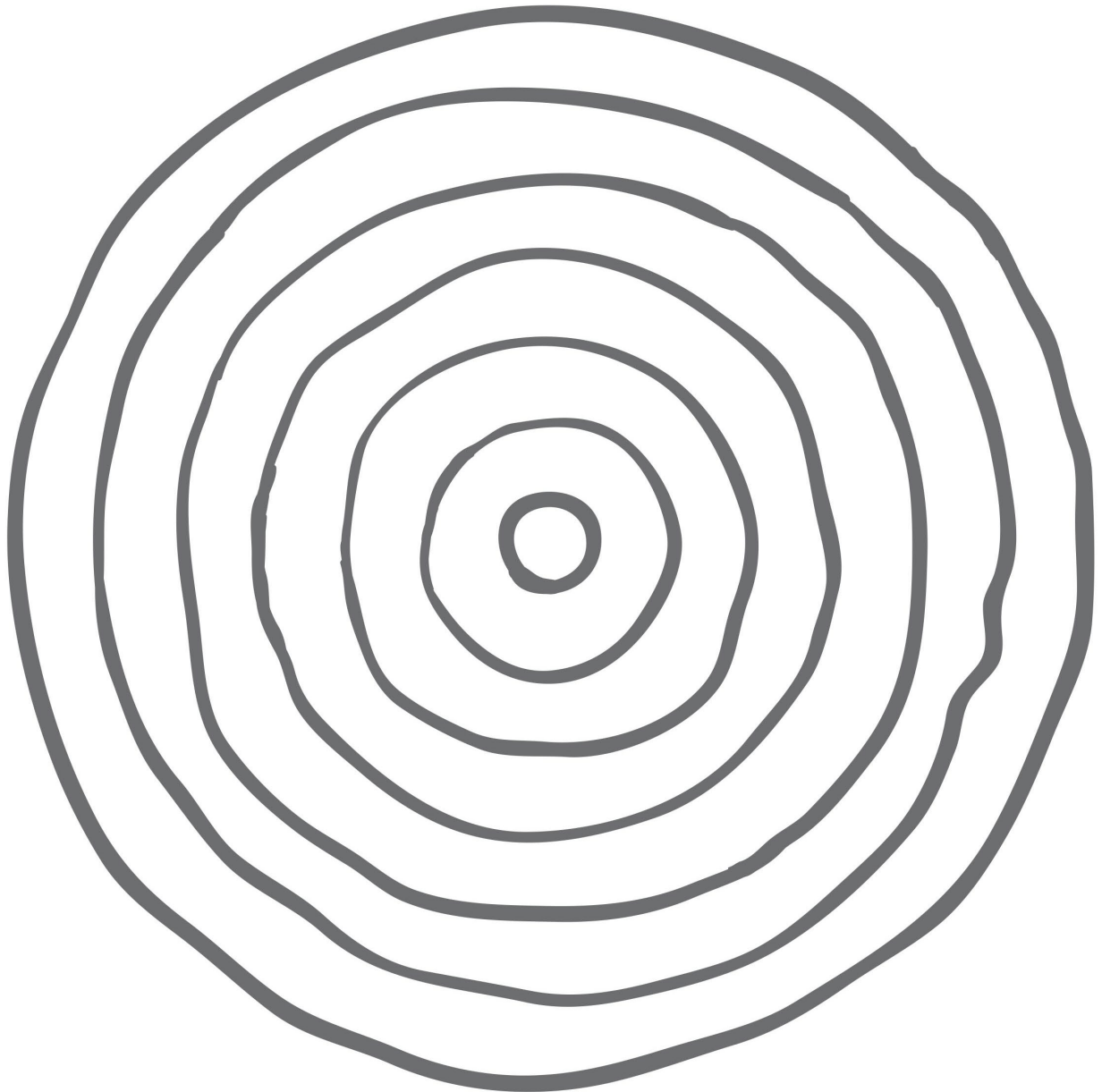


The secrets trees keep...

Imagine this tree stump is telling the story of your life. Write one memory into each ring.

Start in the middle with your early memories - perhaps your first day of school and your first holiday. Then work your way outwards to your more recent memories.

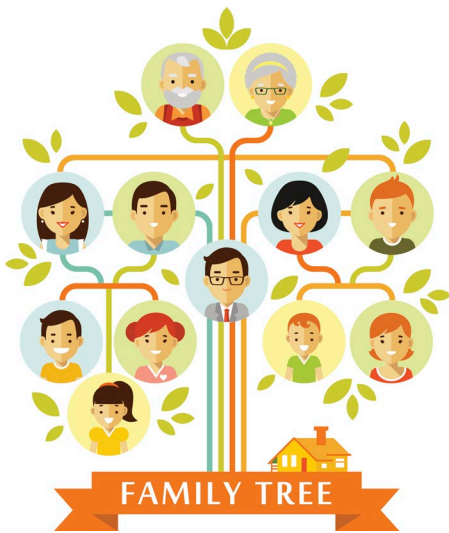
Then, **colour code** your memories: Memories from spring and early summertime should be a lighter-coloured wood. Later summer / autumn memories should be darker-coloured.





Family Tree

One of the best ways of finding out about the past is to talk with people who are older than us - especially our parents and grandparents. Yes, tap into your own “**family tree**”!



Next time you chat with your grandparents or an older neighbour, ask them the following questions - you might be surprised at what stories or insight they will give you!

- What was life like when you were at school?
- How was life different back then to how it is now?
- Can you tell me about a significant moment in your life, one that stands out in your memory?

Some ideas: when electricity first came to their town / when mobile phones first came out / a big sporting moment / a really cool gig they went to.

Top tip - just be careful you don't insult anyone by hinting that they are extremely old!

Be careful not to get “**barked**” at!





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