

Take a closer look at... BARK

Wrapped tightly around a tree, the bark is its protective covering. Just underneath the bark are the delicate vessels that transport food and water through the trunk to the roots and leaves.

Take a look at the trees around you - notice how the bark of different trees has individual colours, textures and patterns. The cracks, bumps and scars of bark are home to a world of tiny, scurrying, burrowing wildlife.

- Bark can be as thin as paper and, as with an old giant redwood tree, as thick as the wall of house!
- Bark helps us as well - the main ingredient of aspirin comes from willow tree bark.
- Tannin from bark has been used to treat animal skins to produce leather since Roman times.
- Bark has been used to make cloth, canoes, ropes, paper and maps.
- When you celebrate with a glass of bubbly remember that the cork comes from the bark of the cork oak tree.



Visit [Trees for Life](#) to find out more about bark and the Council's website for more on [Carmarthenshire's amazing wildlife](#).



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