

A writing activity from

# Grimm & Co



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## Out and About: In Touch with Nature

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**You will need:** A permanent marker, some dry leaves and some time outside to gather them.

We are so lucky to be surrounded by trees. They are beautiful, they help us breathe and they are great for the environment. We think trees should have all the respect that they deserve so today they are going to be the focus of our writing.

**Step one:** If you can, why not get out into nature and observe some trees near your home in close detail before completing this activity. Take note of the textures, sounds and smells. Consider what the trees make you feel.

**Step two:** When there is an appropriate time ask an adult if you can go to some outdoor space near your home. This could be a garden, the local park or even a leafy street. While you are there enjoying some fresh air, collect as many leaves as possible, look for different shapes or colours. Collect any that catch your eye.

**Step three:** Try to ensure the leaves are dry or if they aren't, you will need to leave them to dry out once you return home. Take the dry leaves and consider what sort of tree they might have fallen from. A huge, powerful oak tree? Or a gentle Willow?

**Step four:** Now write messages on the underside of the leaves in a permanent marker. The aim is to reunite the leaves with the tree they fell from. For example you could write “LOST: Great Willow Tree, tall with tendril branches”. Make sure you are descriptive, there are a lot of trees around so you will need to be specific to make sure they are reunited correctly.

**Step five:** Once they are labelled with their tree’s description, you can distribute them outside again for other people to find or for the wind to carry them along on their journey.