

# Learning in the Leaves

## Identification- Sycamore Tree



### Distinguishing Features

- Leaves: palmate leaves measure 7-16cm and have five lobes. Leaf stalks of younger trees are characteristically red.
- Flowers: small, green-yellow and hang in spikes, or 'racemes'.
- Fruits: after pollination by wind and insects, female flowers develop into distinctive winged fruits known as samaras.
- Look out for: leaf veins are hairy on the underside.

### Interesting Facts

- An introduced species to the UK.
- Used to make Love Spoons in Wales.
- In some parts of the UK the seeds are referred to as helicopters and used for flying competitions and model making.
- Sycamore timber is hard and strong, pale cream and with a fine grain. It is used for making furniture and kitchenware as the wood does not taint or stain the food.