

WILD DUBLIN

Exploring Nature in the City

Don't rub me up the 'wrong' way, OK!



Read pp 78-79

The bark of a tree is like its skin. It is colourful and very interesting to look at. There is a lot of texture on the bark and you can tell the type of tree it is by looking at its bark. You can also tell if the tree is healthy as well by the way the bark looks.

(Look at the bark in the picture of a tree on page 94)

One of the interesting ways to record a tree is to do a bark rubbing.

You will need some heavy A4 size paper (Cartridge paper is fine) and some coloured crayons, wax pastels or coloured pencils.

- Select a tree that you can have easy access to. Perhaps one that is in your school grounds.
- Look at the bark very carefully and try to select an area to rub that has an interesting texture.
- Close your eyes and rub the bark gently to discover any patterns in the texture of the bark that you can feel with your hands.
- When you have decided which area to take the rubbing from then put the paper against the tree and gently rub it with the crayon or pencil. You will begin to see the texture pattern transfer onto the page.

When you get back to class you can display your work in some interesting ways:

- You can make a collage of everyone's rubbing and arrange them in complementary colours.
- You can cut your rubbing into a tree shape and use the branches as a display to record all the impressions that you have about the tree. (*You could make it a senses display... what I saw, felt, smelled, heard ... **NOT** tasted though!*)
- You could use your rubbings to make a large class display by cutting them and fitting them together to make a tree jigsaw and using the branches to record all the impressions that you remember about the tree.