

Growing Orchard Communities

COMMUNITY ORCHARD TOOLKIT



Making and decorating tokens for tree hangings, postcards, bookmarks or pictures using Orchard Folklore.

A simple art activity which is a fun way to find out about orchard folklore and enjoy the sayings, by Sara Hurley. It's most suitable for 4-12 year olds, but *all* ages can enjoy it

Orchards, and apples in particular, have a long legacy in British folklore and many sayings are still well known today. What's the first one you think of? The apple is a symbol throughout the world of love and health, jealousy and poisoning, in traditional stories and myths.

How To ...

1. Find traditional sayings and proverbs to do with apples and orchards.
 - ✂ Download - look in our online toolkit for apple sayings, superstitions and folklore guides
 - ✂ Research - in books or on the internet
 - ✂ Ask - talk to people, particularly older people
2. Present them in a simple way:
 - ✂ Printed on paper as a sheet of different sayings
 - ✂ One saying repeated on one piece of paper ready for the saying to be cut into lines.
3. Let your participants choose a saying.
4. Decide what to make: tree hanging, bookmark, picture, postcard or your own design!
5. Choose what type of paper or card to write it on and pens or paints to decorate it with.
6. Writing the saying:
 - ✂ Write it yourself, think about the style you want and practice first perhaps?
 - ✂ Encourage children and adults to write their own and try to avoid doing it for them.
 - ✂ You could use pre-made paper strips of sayings for participants to glue on the paper and enjoy the decoration.
7. Decorate it as you like. Play with different styles and colours.
8. To protect or strengthen it if needed, you can stick it on thicker card or laminate it
9. For tree decorations:
 - ✂ Make a hole for string with a hole puncher
 - ✂ Attach string or ribbon, bearing in mind the length when hung up and tie it well enough to stay, but loose enough to be taken down at the end of the event!
11. Enjoy your Tree Token!
 - ✂ Decorate your orchard for an event
 - ✂ Give them as a gift
 - ✂ Send a postcard
 - ✂ Use as a bookmark
 - ✂ Decorate your home or shed