The Tin Forest
Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

Why are plants and trees important? What would a world without plants or trees look like? How are seeds transported? What is needed for a plant to grow? Find the answers to these questions in the beautiful fictional story 'The Tin Forest' written by Helen Ward and Wayne Anderson which is available as a book and online.

Discuss...
- What does a world look like without plants?
- Why do we need plants and trees?
- What do you need to grow a forest?
- How do seeds get transported? Watch this BBC Bitesize video on seed dispersal

Create your own Tin Forest!
Step 1 Gather recycled materials from your house such as: cardboard boxes, aluminium foil, cleaned yoghurt pots, (shiny) wrapping paper etc.

Step 2 Design and create your own Tin Forest in a shoebox (as a diorama) or on a sheet of paper. Include trees, plants, flowers and animals.

☆ Challenge KS 1 and KS 2: Look at these strange forests and locate them on a map.

☆ Challenge KS 2: Design and create a specific forest using this list from Rough Guides. Looking at the plants, animals and the rainy weather in the Tin Forest, the setting is a tropical rainforest. Investigate: which type of forest have you chosen? Which plants and animals live there? Use 'The Rainforest' underneath as an example.

Tip! Use toy animals and grass/moss from your local environment in your setting and... enjoy!

The Rainforest
- Plants
  - Grasses (Bamboo)
  - Ferns
  - Rubber trees
  - Giant water lilies
  - Bromeliads
  - Banana trees
- Animals
  - Jaguar
  - African Forest Elephant
  - King vulture
  - Harpy eagle
  - Bengal tiger