

Deforestation

- 1 Explain what deforestation means.
- 2 Copy out the poem below neatly and carefully - watch your spellings!
- 3 Choose a colour and underline the reason a tree was lost in each verse.
- 4 Write a paragraph to explain why Britain has lost so many trees and is still losing them.

Ten Tall Oaktrees

Ten tall oaktrees
Standing in a line,
'Warships,' cried King Henry,
Then there were nine.

Nine tall oaktrees
Growing strong and straight,
'Charcoal,' breathed the furnace,
Then there were eight.

Eight tall oaktrees
Reaching towards heaven,
'Sizzle,' spoke the lightening,
Then there were seven.

Seven tall oaktrees
Branches, leaves and sticks,
'Firewood,' smiled the merchant,
Then there were six.

Six tall oaktrees
Glad to be alive,
'Barrels,' Boomed the brewery,
There were five.

Five tall oaktrees
Suddenly a roar,
'Gangway,' screamed the west wind,
Then there were four.

Four tall oaktrees
Sighing like the sea,
'Floorboards,' beamed the builder,
Then there were three.

Three tall oaktrees
Groaning as trees do,
'Unsafe,' claimed the council,
Then there were two.

Two tall oaktrees
Spreading in the sun,
'Progress,' snarled the by-pass,
Then there was one.

One tall oaktree
Wishing it could run,
'Nuisance,' grumped the farmer,
Then there were none.

No tall oaktrees
Search the field in vain,
Only empty skylines
And the cold, grey rain.

Richard Edwards