**Introduction:**

This project is the third work package of the UKRI-NERC funded ‘Voices of the Future: Collaborating with Young People to reimagine Treescapes’ [NE/V021370/1]

The aim of this project was to explore how children in primary schools talk about nature and the value of trees in their lives. Working with diverse groups of children in the Northen Forest region (name of the city), we investigated the relationships between children, young people, trees, and the affordances of treescapes (trees in school, parks and on the streets) in fostering learning, belonging and hope, which we consider critical to ensuring a sustainable future. We used methods such as audio-recordings, creative arts, and short films to explore treescapes, focusing on children’s knowledge to understand the opportunities and barriers to engagement. The work informs a shared understanding of how sensing materials, arts methods, and scientific approaches to tree mapping can be combined to attend to children’s and young peoples’ experiences of treescapes.

This project, conducted from January 2022 to April 2024, employed a co-productive approach to involving primary school children aged (7-9) as co-researchers. Child-led, art-based creative methods were used to explore children’s everyday experiences with trees in various locations such as neighbourhoods, schools, homes, or other transnational geographical areas. The methods included filmmaking, still photography, drawing, and designing. Children were equipped with digital tools, such as iPad and voice recorders to document their activities, and notebooks for recording field notes. Adult researchers also documented their observations through field notes at the end of each research activity.

Ethical approval to conduct this research was obtained by the university ethics committee. Special ethics assemblies were conducted with children in both schools to explain research processes. Children, their parents, and school teachers were given copies of participant information sheets and consent forms to read and make an independent decision about their voluntary participation. Upon receiving their approval, the following activities were carried out in collaboration with children. These activities took place both indoors and outdoors on different days between January 2022 and April 2024 with Year 3 and 4 children:

**Thinking about Trees (001):** In this activity, children, and students in all schools (North-West primary and south-west primary and secondary schools) shared stories of their favourite trees and drew pictures of activities they would like to do with trees in outdoor places. This activity was held to explore children’s knowledge and experiences with trees.

**Designing New Treescapes (002):** In this activity, children in North-West primary schools created designs for new treescapes where they planned to plant trees. They also included different kinds of outdoor activities they would like to do in their new treescapes.

**Learning with/from Trees (003):** In this activity, a group of the university researchers joined Year3 children in a North-West school and Year 7 students in a South-West secondary to learn about the activities they do with trees as part of their outdoor education.

**Tree Planting (004):** In this activity, children in North-West primary schools collaborated with practitioners from a tree planting organisation and planted trees in the school playgrounds.

**Tree Measuring (005):** In this activity, children worked with a group of interdisciplinary researchers, including tree scientists, and explored different ways to measure a tree ‘s diameter.

**Tree Care (006):** In this activity, children worked with practitioners from a tree planting organisation and participated in tree care activities including weeding and wood chipping.

A selection of children’s conversations and movements recorded during these activities has been shared to showcase the depth and breadth of knowledge that children hold about trees. A selection of field notes recorded by the university researchers has also been shared to show case reflections on child-led methodology. This collection is a digital resource designed to demonstrate good practice and innovation in research with children, with the potential to serve as an exemplar for others.

We have divided the entire dataset into the following four folders.

1. Multimodal Transcripts Treescapes
2. Still Images Treescapes
3. Fieldnotes Treescapes
4. Artefacts Treescapes

Summary of files in each folder:

**Multimodal transcripts Treescapes:** This folder contains 12 Word files with blurred images embedded that describe videos of children tree-planting, tree-measuring and caring for trees.

1. WORDDOC\_TreePlanting004b1
2. WORDDOC\_TreePlanting004b2
3. WORDDOC\_TreePlanting004b3
4. WORDDOC\_TreePlanting004b4
5. WORDDOC\_TreeMeasuring005b1
6. WORDDOC\_TreeMeasuring005b2
7. WORDDOC\_TreeMeasuring005b3
8. WORDDOC\_TreeMeasuring005b4
9. WORDDOC\_TreeCare005b1
10. WORDDOC\_TreeCare005b2
11. WORDDOC\_TreeCare005b3
12. WORDDOC\_TreeCare005b4

**Still Images Treescapes:** This folder contains following 10 still images taken by the children in JPG format, organised with file names such as IMG\_LearningwithTrees003b1. These images can be accessed with Photos.

1. IMG\_LearningwithTrees003b1
2. IMG\_LearningwithTrees003b2
3. IMG\_TreePlanting004b1
4. IMG\_TreePlanting004b2
5. IMG\_TreePlanting004b3
6. IMG\_TreeMeasuring005b1
7. IMG\_TreeMeasuring005b2
8. IMG\_TreeMeasuring005b3
9. IMG\_TreeCare006b1
10. IMG\_TreeCare006b2

**Fieldnotes Treescapes:** This folder contains following 15 fieldnotes written by adult researchers in word documents, organised with file names such as FieldNotesArtistTreeMeasuring005b1.

1. FieldNotesArtistTreeMeasuring005b1
2. FieldnotesArtistTreePlanting004b1
3. FieldNotesChildren's GeographerTreeCare006b1
4. FieldNotesEducationalistTreeCare006b2
5. FieldNotesEducationalistTreeCare006b2
6. FieldnotesEducationalistTreePlanting004b2
7. FieldNotesEnvgeographerTreeMeasuring005b3
8. FieldNotesEthnographerTreeCare006b3
9. FieldNotesEthnographerTreeMeasuring005b5
10. FieldnotesEthnographerTreePlanting004b3
11. FieldNotesGeographerTreeMeasuring005b2
12. FieldnotesPhilosopherTreePlanting004b5
13. FieldNotesScientistTreeMeasuring005b6
14. FieldnoteGeographerTreePlanting004b4
15. FielddnotesTree scientistTreePlanting004b6

**Artefacts Treescapes:** This folder contains following 5 artefacts created by the children, organised with file names such as ArtefactDesiginingnewtreescapes002a1. These artefacts are in JPG and Adobe Acrobat Document formats and can be accessed with Photos and Adobe Acrobat.

1. ArtefactThinkingaboutTrees001a1
2. ArtefactThinkingaboutTrees001a2
3. ArtefactDesiginingnewtreescapes002a1
4. ArtefactDesiginingnewtreescapes002a2
5. ArtefactDesiginingnewtreescapes002a3

Important note

* All names have been anonymised.
* Wherever the data included direct or indirect identifiers including details about the project name, location or personal details of participants have been omitted.

**For help:** [Storing data | Manchester Metropolitan University](https://www.mmu.ac.uk/library/research-support/research-data-management/storing-data#ai-86571-1)