

IDENTIFICATION GAME

This game is a lot like Steal the Bacon, but it has been adapted to help children identify and remember the trees and shrubs in an area. As you explore the locale where you'll be playing the game, collect small samples of leaves, flowers, and seeds from the trees and bushes—you'll need about 7 – 10 specimens in all.

Form two equal teams and line them up facing each other, 30 feet apart. Put the plant specimens in a row on the ground between the two teams. The teams count off separately, so that each player has a number, and on each team there are players numbered one, two, three, etc.

When the teams are ready, call out the name of a tree or bush represented by one of the specimens lying between the teams, then call out a number. (To add surprise, call the numbers out of sequence.)

“The next plant is a beech tree, and the number is . . . three!”

As soon as the “threes” hear their number called, they race to the specimens, trying to be first to find the beech twig. Every successful player earns two points for his team. Picking up the wrong specimen results in a loss of two points.