

Giant Sequoia (Redwood)

(*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)



Giant Sequoias, or Redwoods, have thrived in the UK since the 19th century, gracing estates and arboretums with their towering presence. Their bark is especially fascinating—thick, fibrous, and spongy, it can grow up to 60 cm deep. This bark is fire-resistant and protects the tree from insects, disease, and extreme temperatures. We have several of these giants in our school grounds. How many can you spot?

Redwood/Sequoia

Extended Facts

- Redwoods and giant sequoias are among the tallest and oldest species in the world.
- Their bark is thick, fibrous and fire-resistant.
- Introduced to the UK in the 19th century; many grow in estates and arboreta.

Curriculum-Linked Activities

- Shadow-measurement activity to estimate tree height.
- Bark-texture analysis comparing native vs non-native conifers.
- Timeline creation comparing human history to redwood lifespans.

Useful Weblinks

<https://ati.woodlandtrust.org.uk/tree-search/tree/?treeId=233941>