

## Western Red Cedar

(*Thuja plicata*)



Meet the Western Red Cedar—nature’s gentle giant! With its rich, reddish bark and fragrant, fan-like foliage, this towering conifer brings a touch of the Pacific Northwest to the Clifton Hall. Its soft, scale-like leaves smell sweetly of pineapple when crushed, and its tiny cones add charm to its graceful branches. Often planted in parks and estates, it’s not just beautiful—it’s a haven for wildlife and a living lesson in biodiversity. Look up and be amazed!

## Western Red Cedar

### Extended Facts

- Native to the Pacific Northwest, this species thrives in damp, sheltered UK woodland.
- It can grow up to 210 to 230 feet (65 to 70 meters) tall. Its trunk can be 10 to 23 feet (3 to 7 meters) wide.
- Its bark and wood are decay-resistant, making them ecologically valuable.

### Curriculum-Linked Activities

- Scent investigation: compare aromas of different conifer leaves.
- Evergreen vs deciduous sorting exercise.

### Useful Weblinks

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/a-z-of-british-trees/western-red-cedar/>

## Additional Helpful Resources

**Outdoor Woodland Learning Scotland** <https://owlscotland.org/find-a-resource/>