Miró in Play

When I See a Tree
A game for explorers young and old

Fundació Joan Miró Barcelona
Put your observation skills to the test and get ready to learn lots about trees!

What will you find in this game?
— A plan of the Foundation and a list of trees
— Information, interesting facts and activities related to these trees

How do you play When I See a Tree?
— Follow the path so you can put each tree in the right place on the Foundation’s plan.
— Carefully read the interesting facts about each of these trees.
— Fill in the information with everything you know or that your parents, grandparents, teachers or friends can tell you.
— Enjoy the activities related to each of the trees.

“When I see a tree, I get a shock, as though it were something that breathes and talks.”
Joan Miró
Follow the path!

Joan Miró believed that nature and art could not be understood in isolation of each other, so he wanted his foundation to have various courtyards with trees such as almond, carob and olive trees.

Follow the path so you can put each tree in the right place on the plan.
Did you know that...?

Almond trees

Almond trees are the first to blossom every year, but they can only do so when the temperature rises above 6 °C.

The trees produce almond nuts, which have been used since ancient times to make creams and cough syrup. In addition, almonds are used to make all kinds of cakes and nougat.

Almond trees also

Activity:

To make the sculpture that welcomes visitors to the foundation, Joan Miró took his inspiration from the shape of an almond.

What does the shape of an almond remind you of? Draw whatever comes to mind that is like this shape.
Carob trees

Carob trees are so drought-resistant that many countries decide to plant them in order to reclaim land from the desert.

The carob pods produced by the trees can be used to make a paste that tastes very similar to chocolate! All you need to do is take a good handful of the pods, clean them, roast them in the oven and then grind them to make a fine powder just like cocoa.

Carob trees also

Activity:

Each time Joan Miró set off on his travels, he packed a carob pod in his suitcase to remind him of his beloved land and to give him strength.

As well as the carob pod, what other things from this list do you think Joan Miró might have put in his suitcase?

- paintbrushes
- a lightbulb
- an alarm clock
- a pair of pyjamas
- cough sweets
- a scooter
- a tortoise
- a notepad
- coloured pencils
- his passport
- a trumpet
- drawing charcoal
- a fishing rod
- a map
- a pair of scissors
Olive trees

Ever since ancient times, olive trees have been regarded as sacred in many cultures. They are also the symbol of peace and wisdom. In Classical Greece, the prize for winners at the Olympic Games was an olive wreath. And in Ancient Egypt, mummies such as that of Tutankhamen were wrapped in olive tree branches.

Olive oil is known as ‘liquid gold’. Do you know why? Well, it is because it is highly prized as it is used in many ways in cooking, cosmetics and medicine. So an olive tree is like a chest that holds valuable treasure!

Activity:

On one occasion, the olive tree at the Fundació Joan Miró became a bridal bouquet for the Statue of Liberty in New York!

Draw or use flowers and leaves to make four bouquets or wreaths to give to:

- an Olympic champion
- a mummy
- a statue on Easter Island
- your best friend
Miró in Play is a series of educational resources to help children learn about various aspects of Joan Miró's life, his work and his working processes.

You can use these materials to prepare for your visit to the Fundació Joan Miró or to continue to study more at home or at school. Observe, create and have fun with this collection of games for boys and girls of all ages!