



English for PS, Sek I

Wood

Building and living (1)

14:30 minutes

Summary Wood is a versatile natural building material. Toys, furniture and structural elements in houses are made of wood. In the past, whole logs would be used in construction; today they have been replaced by prefabricated wood elements. What are the advantages and drawbacks of wood? What professionals work with wood? Primary school students answer these questions, while an architect traces the history of wood from the Stone Age to today.

Didactics This feature film provides an entertaining and informative introduction to the topic of building materials. If possible, excursions to the forest will deepen the understanding of what has been dealt with at school. For further teaching ideas, consult the specialist Department of Architecture and School (www.spacespot.ch).

Learning goals The students...

1. about the characteristics of wood.
2. how wood was used for building in the past, and how it is used today.
3. what advantages and drawbacks there are in building with wood.
4. what professions work with wood.

Methodical ideas

1. In class, explore some basic questions on the topic of wood: What is wood? What is it used for? What are its advantages and drawbacks? Put students' answers on the board.
2. View the film in class. Students take notes on the following topics: wood in the past – today, characteristics of wood, advantages and drawbacks, professions.
3. After viewing: what new aspects have students learnt in addition? What additional questions have come up?
4. Plenary discussion of questions.