

Go on a Lichen Hunt

Name: _____

I am lichen hunting in: _____

You can go on a lichen hunt almost anywhere. Why not see what you can find around **where you live** and compare that with a **park** or **wood**?

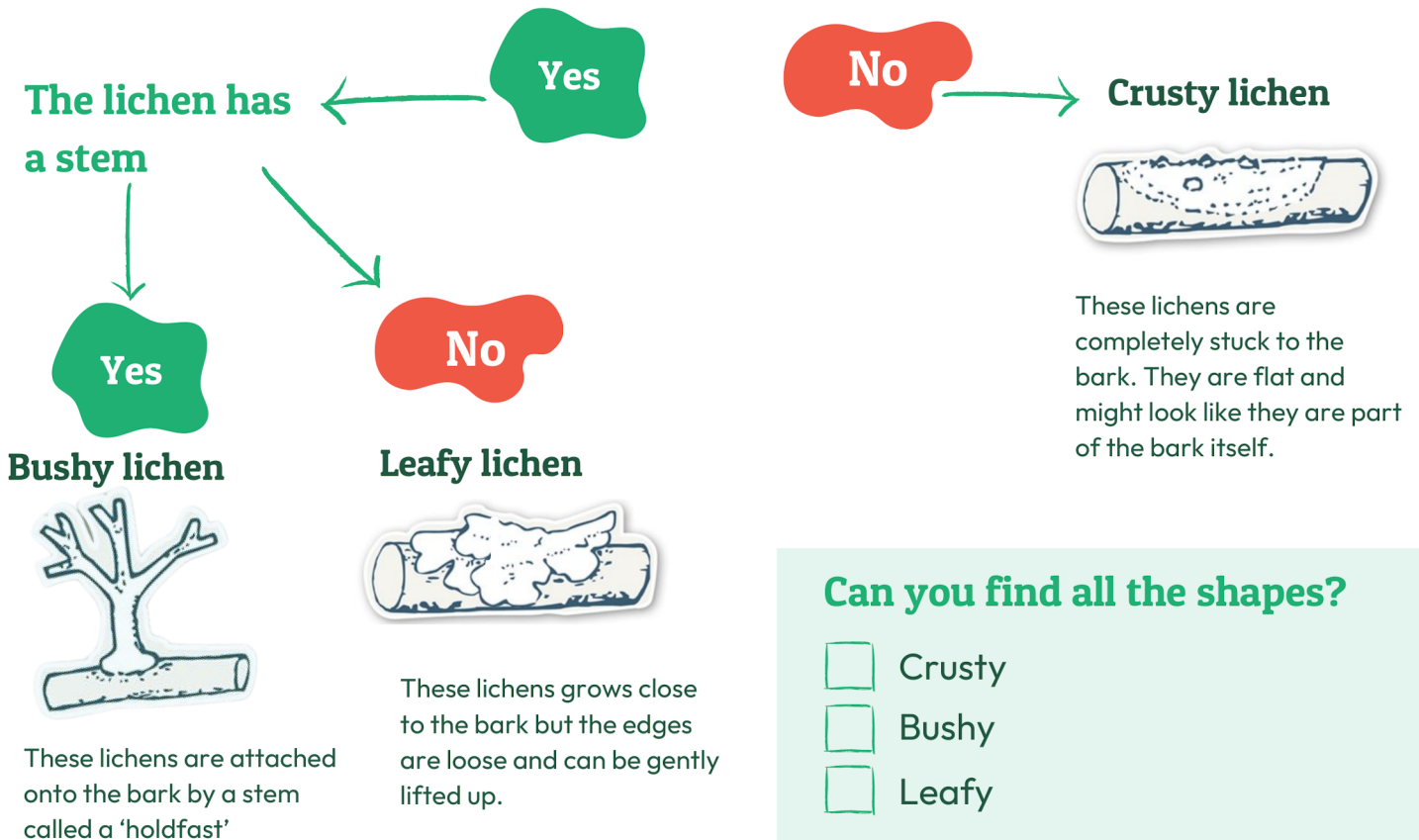
You will have to **look carefully**, sometimes lichens are very small. If you have a **magnifying glass**, take that on your hunt so you can have a really close look at what you find.

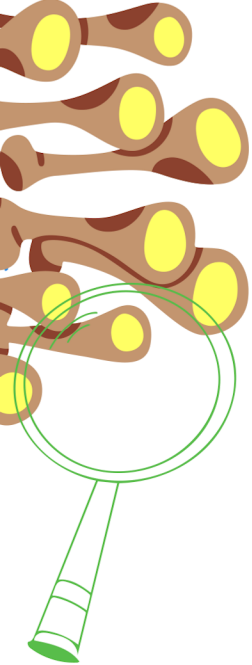


What do lichens look like?

Lichens come in different shapes. They can be crusty, bushy or leafy. They grow on all sorts of surfaces but for now, find a tree and look for them on the trunk or branches. Answer the questions in this key to decide which kind of lichen you are looking at.

The lichen sticks up from the bark it is growing on.





Where do lichens grow?

Now take a good look around the rest of the area you are in for lichens. Remember – they can grow on both man-made and natural surfaces. Write down where you find them in this table:

Man-made surfaces	Natural surfaces

Did you find more on man-made or natural surfaces?

Where was the most surprising place that you found lichens?

All the colours of the rainbow?

Lichens come in lots of different colours and some even change colour depending on whether they are growing in the sun or in the shade, or if they are wet or dry.

Can you find lichens that are all the colours of this rainbow wheel?

Now you know what lichens look like and where to find them, see if you can spot them in other places you go.

