



Hands-on: **Make a willow flute**

Materials and tools

- A sharp knife
- About 10 cm of fresh willow twig without knots, 1-1.5 cm in diameter

Instructions

- 1 Cut 3–4 small holes in the bark of the willow twig (for the tones) and a slightly larger hole about 2 cm from one end.
- 2 Place the willow twig on a hard surface and tap it gently all over with a piece of wood or something similar. Continue until the bark loosens.
- 3 Twist and carefully push the wood free from the bark.
- 4 Cut off a piece of the wood, 1.5 cm long, and carve it flat.
- 5 Push the piece of wood back into the bark, with the flat side facing the upper hole in the bark. Blow into the flute.

The flute may not work straight away. Then you must try pushing the piece of wood a little back and forth inside the willow bark. You may also need to shave off a little more of the wood so that more air passes through the blowing hole.

