SHERWOOD FOREST
WHERE LEGENDS GROW

LEAVES OF SHERWOOD

As part of the **Sherwood Forest Day** celebrations, we are delighted to launch a new community project called ‘Leaves of Sherwood’.

We are inviting schools, community groups, clubs, workplaces, families and local organisations to get involved by creating their own ‘Leaves of Sherwood’ display and helping us celebrate our shared connection to Sherwood Forest.

WHAT IS SHERWOOD FOREST DAY?

Held on **February 20th each year** to celebrate and promote Sherwood Forest as a national environmental, cultural and historic asset. The date marks the birthday of Major Hayman Rooke who’s detailed descriptions and sketches of Sherwood Forest's ancient trees led to the iconic Major Oak being named in his honour.

Following the reported death of the Major Oak in 2026, the ‘Leaves of Sherwood’ project provides an opportunity to celebrate the enduring legacy of this iconic tree and the many other ancient and veteran trees in Sherwood Forest. By creating and displaying oak leaves, communities can come together to share their connection to this special landscape and help raise awareness of the need to protect these remarkable living treasures.

Inside this pack, you’ll find a step by step guide of how to get involved and a printable oak leaf template. Simply print the template and get creative! Once your leaves are complete, use your school, community or group space to display them and send us a picture of your masterpiece which we look forward to sharing with our visitors on the build up to Sherwood Forest Day. We can’t wait to see your creations!

Thank you for helping us celebrate this special day!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

STEP 1: PRINT YOUR LEAVES
Use page 3 to print as many oak leaves as you need.

STEP 2: GET CREATIVE
Colour, paint, decorate, collage or embellish your leaves in any way you like. On the back of each leaf, you might like to write a few words about what Sherwood Forest means to you.

STEP 3: CREATE YOUR DISPLAY
Display your leaves in your school, community or group space. You could arrange them into the shape of a tree, or let your imagination run wild and create something completely unique!

STEP 4: SHARE YOUR CREATION
Take a photo of your finished artwork and email it, along with your group name, to sherwoodforest@rspb.org.uk
Please ensure your photo file is no larger than 5MB.

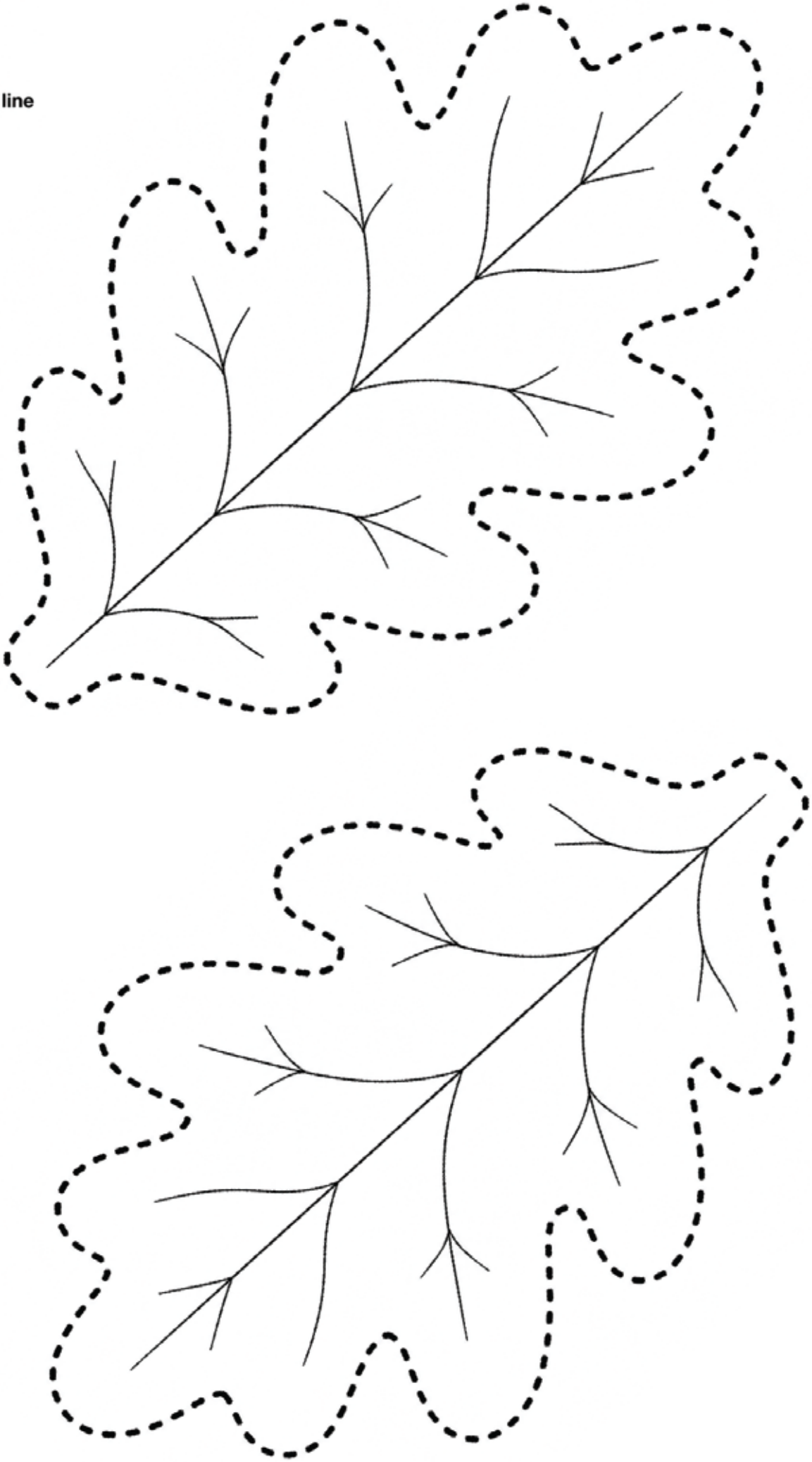
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2027

STEP 5: SEE YOUR ARTWORK ON DISPLAY!
Photos of participating groups' creations will be featured in a scrolling digital gallery at the Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre from 15th to 21st February 2027, during the week leading up to Sherwood Forest Day.

The gallery will celebrate the many people, communities and organisations connected through this special project across Nottinghamshire and beyond.

Just as the Major Oak has inspired generations, we hope this project will encourage people to celebrate Sherwood Forest Day by valuing, protecting and championing the remarkable trees that shape this iconic landscape.

Be sure to visit the Visitor Centre to see your artwork on display and discover the creativity of other groups taking part!

A4 paper

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