

# EDUCATION

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As a general rule a hedge will gain one species of tree, shrub or woody climber for every 100 years of life.

To find out the age of a hedge:

1. Measure out a 30 metre stretch of hedgerow
2. Count the number of trees and shrubs present, including bramble and dog rose.
3. If there are 3 species, your hedge may be 300 year old. If there are 7 it could be 700 years old.



**BRAMBLES**



**DOG ROSE**

This method is not always accurate as some new hedges are planted with many species. Always try to choose a stretch of hedge which is away from house or roads.

Books:

Hedges (pub. Ladybird)  
Nature through the seasons by R Adams (pub. Penguin)



**EMPEROR MOTH CATERPILLAR**



**A YOUNG HEDGE**



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