

# Oaklore Visual Story

This visual story is for people coming to  
Kew Gardens to experience Oaklore.

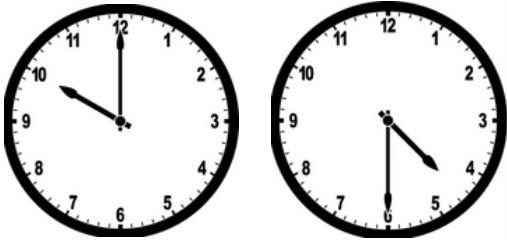
It is intended to help prepare you for a new  
experience and help you to become familiar with the surroundings

A full visual guide for Kew Gardens can be found on their website  
[here](#)

# Dates, Times And Place



Oaklore will take place at Kew Gardens from **Saturday 26th July** to **Sunday 31st August**



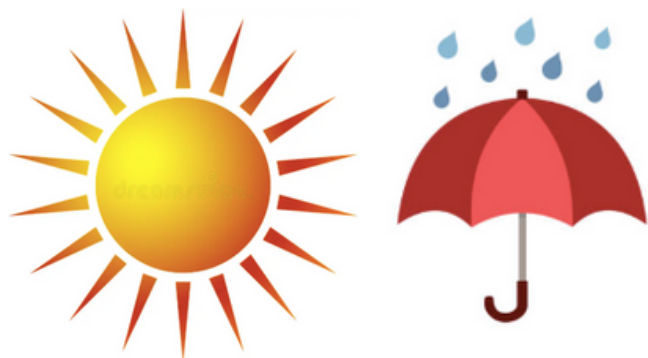
The sessions take place from **10am - 5pm**, with the last session starting at **4.30pm**



The experience will last around **30 minutes**, however people are welcome to stay and play for as long as they want.



There are quiet sessions available on the **27<sup>th</sup> August 3.30pm - 5pm**. These will have less people in, so it will be quieter and less crowded.



Oaklore is held **outside** at Kew Gardens. You may want to wear a hat and suncream if it's hot, or a rain coat or umbrella if it's raining.

# Experience



It is an **immersive** experience – this means the performers are around and next to you, and will treat you like a character in the story.

You can leave and rejoin the experience at any time.



You walk from one Oaklore section to the next. It is around 50m from one area to another.



Throughout the experience, the characters will ask the audience to join in – they might ask you to repeat a word, ask a question, shout a chant, or cheer and clap. The audience might be loud and noisy when they do this.

If you don't want to join in this is also okay!



It is fairly easy to find a quiet space in Kew Gardens – A list of suggested quiet spaces can be found in Kew's Visual [Guide Here](#)

# Noise And Music



Oaklore is held outside  
- there is no music or sound effects  
used during the experience



The performers will wear microphones to  
make their voices louder.



The audience may cheer,  
clap and shout



Although not part of the performance, there  
are sometimes aeroplanes flying overhead at  
Kew gardens. These can be noisy.

# Characters

There are four characters – the **oak keepers**, named **Green Leaf**, **Twig** and **Moss**, and the **Oak Oracle**. The characters are all played by different people each time, however they will be wearing the same costume.



The oak keepers **Green Leaf**, **Twig** and **Moss**, will all be wearing this costume.



The Oak Oracle will be wearing this costume





If the weather is very wet or windy, the Oak Oracle will be wearing this costume.

## Areas

There are four different areas at Oaklore – **Oak Welcome**, **Oak Central**, **Oak Oracle**, and **Oak Procession**.

You will be encouraged to go from one area to another in this order.

However! You can stay in an area longer if you like, or go to a different area if you want.

# Oak Welcome

This is the start of the oaklore experience. You will be greeted by **Green Leaf**, who will sit on a big structure, pictured below.



Green leaf is very enthusiastic. They love oak trees.

They will tell you lots of facts about oak trees, but more like a story. They talk about how big and mighty oaks are, how they change through the seasons, how old they are, and what threatens oaks – the oak processionary moth, and more importantly, climate change. They might ask you some questions, or ask you to cheer at points.

They will call you Oaktivists– they want your help in supporting the other Oak Keepers and Oak Trees. They will tell you briefly about each area that you will go to.

You will then be encouraged to move onto the second area, **Oak Central**



# Oak Central



The second area is **Oak Central**.

There is covering for shade if it's hot or raining, and wooden benches to sit down on.



Here you will meet **Twig**.

Here you can make Oaktivist flags out of twigs and brown **sticky tape** to show messages of support for Oaks. There are instructions written down, **Twig** can help you. **Twig** can also chat to you and tell you lots of oak facts.

after you've made your Oaktivist Flag, You'll be encouraged onto the third area, **Oak Oracle**



# Oak Oracle



The second area is the **Oak Oracle**.

Here you can sit down on some colourful raked seating, and meet the **Oak Oracle**.

The **Oak Oracle** will tell you a story about how oak trees have been around for a very long time. They explain how people used oak wood to build ships that sailed across oceans, made special ink from oak galls to write Shakespeare's plays and the American Declaration of Independence, and how tiny acorns can grow into huge, mighty trees.

The Oak Oracle's big message is that oak trees are like wise old grandparents of the forest – but they can't speak for themselves. So the Oak Oracle will ask you to become "Oak-keepers" – people who protect and speak up for trees. At the end, the Oak Oracle will disappear into woods, reminding everyone that we can all help keep these ancient friends of the forest safe for the future. You will be encouraged to go onto the fourth and final area, **Oak Procession**.

# Oak Procession



The forth and final area is the Oak Procession. Here you will be greeted by the character **Moss**. There are two rainbow coloured towers with flags on.



Moss will read some of the slogans and messages of support on your flags. They will then make a chant in support of the Oak trees with your messages. You will be encouraged to march from one tower to the other, chanting your support for Oak Trees. This may become a bit noisy.

They will thank you for your strong voices, then say goodbye - suggesting you go and say hello to the nearest oak tree, or give it a hug.

This is the end of Oaklore. You can go back into different areas if you like, or enjoy the rest of Kew Gardens.