

Action P7 : Visite en forêt

Visite en forêt : rencontre avec le bucheron

In the forest :
Interview with the lumberjack
2019 / 2020



Education nationale
Ecole Élémentaire René Descartes



Erasmus+



Action P17, meeting the lumberjack

The class went to a forest to interview a woodcutter.

1 What types of trees do you cut?

First of all, we do not say types of trees but species.

Then, we cut mainly oaks because it is the most common species of tree in the felling area. But there are also beeches, ashes, birches and poplars.

The beech is the hardest specie to cut.

When I need to know which species I will cut, I can see the trunks marked with a red cross. I cut down about twenty trees a day. The best season is winter (the sap is gone down).

2 How can we know the age of a tree?

To find the age of the trees, it is necessary to count the growth rings. It tells us the growing seasons the tree has been through.

3 How did you become a lumberjack ?

I don't have any special qualification to perform this activity. In the past, you didn't need to have a degree to do this manual trade. I started working when I was 16, and I've been working for 30 years.

Nowadays, it is necessary to obtain a degree (qualification agricultural forestry work; speciality logging).

The amount of my depends on the number of species cut in a whole month,



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4 Is the job a difficult ?

Yes : the work of a lumberjack is physical, painful and dangerous.

You have to be physically fit and strong.

From 10 felled trees, it becomes difficult.

At the time of cutting, trees or branches may fall on me.

A few years ago, I had a serious workplace accident,

I was injured because of a big branch that hit my back.

I was off work during 2 years (hospitalization, immobilization and physical therapy for the spinal column).

5 Do you enjoy your work ?

Yes: I do because I love Nature and I like working outside.

Besides, I like working alone.