



# The Yule Log

*The tradition of the Yule log is rooted in the winter solstice festivals of Scandinavia and northern Europe. During these celebrations, logs were lit to entice the sun's return.*

*In medieval times, Yule festivities became a part of Christmas. Entire trees were cut, with the large end placed inside the hearth. The log was gradually fed into the fire from December 25th to January 6th, or Twelfth Night.*

*The tradition of the Yule log even reached American plantations, where enslaved Americans were given a rare holiday for as long as the Yule log burned.*

*Different countries preferred different trees for their Yule logs.*

On your nature walk, look for these four species:

Oak (England)

Ash twigs (Somerset and Devon, England)

Birch (Scotland)

Cherry (France)

Can you find nature objects on your walk that begin with each of the letters in YULE LOG?

