Trees have large crowns, broad but thin leaves.

Tall trees dominant species – oak 30-40m also elm, beech, sycamore, ash, chestnut

Trees shed leaves in winter, reducing transpiration when less H2O available.

Few dominant species – sometimes just one e.g. beech.

Most woodlands show stratification

Shrub layer of smaller trees e.g. holly, hazel, rowan & hawthorn.

Just above forest floor is the ‘herb layer’ which can be dense if light filters through e.g. grasses, bracken, ferns, bluebells.

Epiphytes e.g. lichens & mosses grow on trunks & branches

Mosses grow on forest floor, thick leaf litter layer broken down by microbes & animals.

Characteristics of deciduous woodland:
The UK climatic climax vegetation

A high energy biome