

Virtual Arbor Day 2020

Arbor Day 2020

Help Create a Virtual Edmonton Forest

Arbor Day is May 8th, 2020, we would like to share some activities to help you celebrate this Tree-mendous day. We encourage students to create their very own trees and put them in the window to celebrate Arbor Day.

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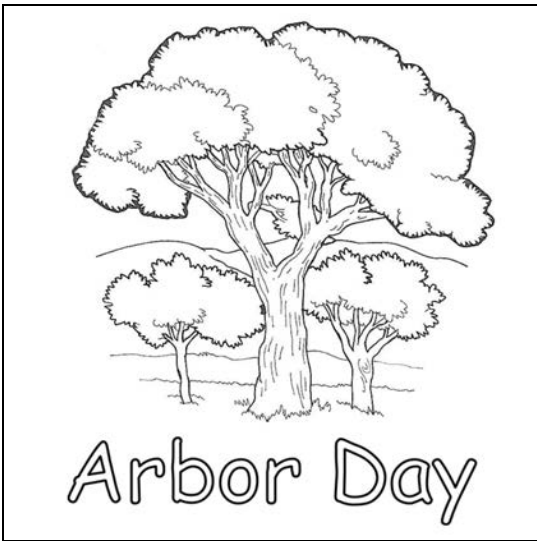
Tree Colouring Pages

Crayons, pencil crayons, chalk, or paint ... grab your favorite coloring materials and print off a page or two!

You can find many other coloring pages online, if you wish.

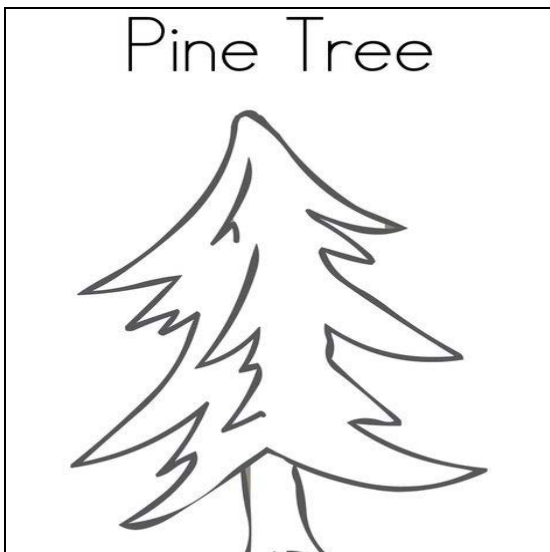
[Arbor Day Colouring Page.pdf](#)

[Girl & Boy Planting A Tree Coloring Page.pdf](#)



[Pine Tree.pdf](#)

[Trees on Sunny Day on Arbor Day Coloring Pages.pdf](#)



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Create Other Types of Trees

There are many other types of trees you could make ... have fun being creative!



Materials:

- From your craft supplies - glue, glitter, paint, markers
- Feathers, felt, cloth, paper
- [YouTube Video on Various Tree Painting Techniques](#)
(external link)

- [Tree Craft Pictures.pdf](#)



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What animals use trees?

Create your own Pine Cone Animal

Materials:

- Outside - find a variety of pine / spruce cones
- From your craft supplies - glue, glitter, paint, markers
- Do you have Googly Eyes? Or use a felt pen!
- Feathers, felt, cloth, paper



To do:

- Figure out what animal you wish to make ...
 - Local animals - blue jays, magpies, squirrels, porcupines
 - Animals living in the forest - coyote, bobcat, bear, skunk
 - Exotic animals - monkey, sloth, koala bear
 - Your own creation - dragon, composite (head of a cat, body of a bird?)
- Add features to the cone to make your creature come to life.
- Let it dry
- Build a zoo ... the more the merrier!



Forest Feely Bags

Materials:

- one or several cloth bags, each containing one forest-themed item (eg. bark, twigs, feathers, cones)
- parent or friend



To do:

- Show the bag(s). Explain that each bag contains something that was found in the forest (but it's nothing yucky or scary).
 - Each person will have a chance to reach into the bag to feel the object inside.
 - Can you guess what is in the bag, just by feeling it?
- Rules:
 - No peeking! Just use your sense of touch, not your eyes. Close your eyes if you don't trust yourself.
 - Don't tell! If you know what it is, don't give it away! Everyone should get a turn to feel what it is.
- Pass the bag around the circle.
 - Let each child feel the object, then pass the bag along.
- Once the bag has gone to each child:
 - Take out the object.
 - Explain how the object relates to trees and the forest.
- If you have time, pass around the second bag (without showing it) or put another object in the bag.
- If you still have time, pick one student to find something to put in the bag.
 - It can't be something that is alive (bugs, snakes, etc.)
 - It can't be picked from a living plant
 - It should be something found on the ground
 - It should be safe to handle (no sharps or itchy materials)

How to Grow a Bean Seedling in a Bag

Materials:

- A plastic zip top baggie (sandwich size baggie, but larger-size baggies work too)
- One paper towel
- A few bean seeds: You can purchase a package at a store or try various types from your kitchen – kidney, pinto, chickpea, lentil, navy

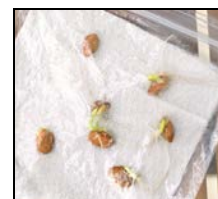
To do:

- Fold up the paper towel so that it fits easily inside the plastic baggie. Make it damp (not dripping) and put it into the baggie.
- Add a few beans and place them inside the baggie on top of the paper towel.
- Seal the plastic baggie shut and set it on the counter for observation over the next couple of weeks. If you notice it getting moldy (black or green ‘fuzz’) open the baggie overnight to let it dry, then reseal it.



- Check the growing beans each day to see how they are changing.
- After about five days you should notice that the seeds start to germinate! You will see a little shoot poking out from the seed coat.

● After a few more days you will hopefully see that more of the seeds are sprouting. The roots will grow and spread out across the paper towel. Since the baggie is clear and the roots are right on top of the paper towel, you get a very unique and detailed look into how seeds sprout and grow!



● You can keep growing beans in the bag for about two weeks. By then a few of the bean plants might grow so tall they start pushing up against the plastic baggie!

- After a couple weeks you can try to transfer the seedlings into soil to see if they would grow some more – if you have a garden or flower bed outside. This will be tough on the seedling, but they might grow ...

You can try growing seeds with paper towel in a glass jar (seeds against the glass) with a lid until the bean leaves out.



Or you can try growing them directly on soil - use a cup and good soil ... you won't see the roots, but these are easier to transplant outside

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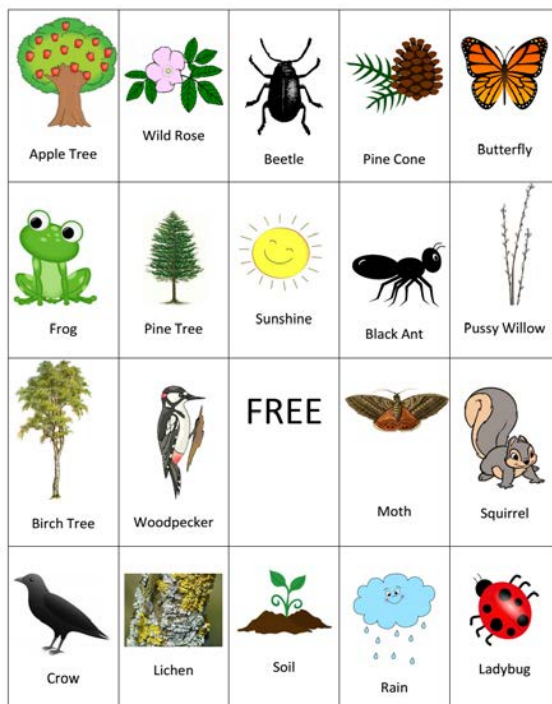
Bingo or Scavenger Hunt

To do:

- You can print this page or have someone read it to you then you find the objects.
- For bingo, try to find all the objects in a line, or fill the entire card
- For a scavenger hunt, compete nicely with a friend or sibling to see who can find the most items in a period of time
- Do not pick whole live plants - you can take a single leaf or one of many flowers, but otherwise, leave the plants to live.
- Be careful picking things up ... watch for slimy, nasty, prickly, sharp!
- Do not try to catch live animals. Simply touching a frog or toad could hurt its skin - look but don't touch, please!

[Nature Bingo.pdf](#)

Nature Bingo!



Make a Stick or Bark Boat (Complex)

Materials:

- twigs and branches, gather many
- glue gun – with your parents' help!
- yarn or twine
- paper for the sail
- scissors

To do:



- Start by picking out twigs that are mostly straight. Cut them to be about the same length. Use about ten, or however many you choose.



- Take one twig and tie yarn on one end. Tie another string of yarn on the other end.



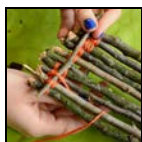
- Now take another twig and wrap the yarn around both twigs – doing an 8 – going around the first twig, making a loop around the second one, going around the first one again and second one.



- Do the same on the other end.



- This is how your boat should be looking as you weave your way through all the sticks. If there's leftover yarn sticking out, leave it there, you'll need it (but no worries if it's not, you can always tie in a new string).

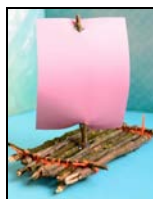


- Now it's time to reinforce the boat with two new twigs. "Stitch" them onto the boat along the yarn.

- With the help of a parent, heat up the glue gun. Place a twig in the middle of the boat and apply a generous amount of hot glue.



- Once the glue dries, add sail you cut out of paper (or leaf).



Sail it carefully in your wading pool or a puddle. **Only with adult help should you try sailing your boat on a lake or creek!**

Make a Stick or Bark Boat (Easy)

Twig rafts are a fun activity, but can be difficult to make for young children who aren't able to tie the sticks together. This version is much easier for little ones to make by themselves using masking tape instead of string. And as masking tape is biodegradable it won't harm the environment if the raft gets lost downstream!

These rafts are not designed to last a long time - the tape will lose its stickiness after a while in the water - but it's easy to make more when they eventually fall apart!



Materials:

- four thumb sized twigs or small branches
- brown masking tape
- one thin twig or skewer
- big leaf or paper for the sail

To do:



- Lay the four sticks close together making sure they touch each other.
- Take a strip of masking tape and stick it across all four sticks close to one end. Do the same near the other end of the sticks.
- Turn over the raft and wrap the ends of the masking tape around the other side. Add more masking tape strips if necessary to strengthen.
- Skewer the leaf onto the narrow stick to make the sail.
- Push the sail between the middle two sticks of the raft. If it doesn't stay securely you could push it through some of the masking tape



If you have access to an outside area, fill a float the rafts on. See how many plastic toys many stones the raft can carry without sinking. If you don't have access to water, you could sink full of water.

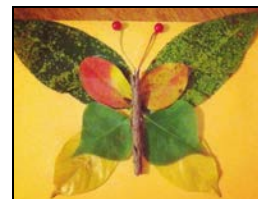


paddling pool or deep trays with water to or building blocks can fit on the raft, or how sinking.

have boat races by pushing the rafts across a

Stick and Leaf Butterfly

Butterflies are beautiful and easy to make, and you can expand this technique into other insects ... make a whole flight of pollinators! You can use green leaves now or wait for color in the fall - or you can paint or use markers on your leaves.



Materials:

- two or four large leaves with stems
- a small twig
- tape or glue
- paints or markers
- maybe googly eyes? maybe pipe-cleaners for antennas or legs?



To do:

- Snip the stems off the leaves - but don't lose the stems, as they can be made into antennae.
- Tape the undersides of leaves across the twig as wings. Tape works better than glue since the leaves can still have some moisture. They may take a long time to dry.



- With a narrow strip of tape, tape the stems on the head as antennae.
- You can add googly eyes (glue) or pipe-cleaner legs (twist around the body before putting on the wings).
- If a twig isn't available, you can make a body on a piece of paper or draw the body on a flat paper and glue the leaf wings to the paper.



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Poem-Tree

Trees are beautiful - and so are words. You can combine the two in a poem. The poem can be as simple as “A tree grew so new” or a sonnet or a haiku. It can be about the tree itself or the animals or birds who live in the tree. It can be about how you feel about the tree, or how the tree feels about you. You can put your poem to music and make a song, or write it on a card and give it to a friend or family member.

There is no limit to the number of poems you can write ... explore the wonder of the forest with words.

If you come to plant with Root for Trees this summer or fall, please share your poem with the team.

If you like writing, add a story about your Arbor Day trees! Do you have a tree story to tell us? Please share your great [story about your Arbor Day tree!](#)



Bark or Leaf Rubbing

Bark and leaf rubbings can be a simple way to collect the many interesting patterns. Try this easy outdoor activity for kids on a dry day, because wet tree bark can make your paper tear.

Materials:

- Large crayon or colored chalk
- Thin paper
- Trees
- Hair spray
- Masking Tape

To do:

Bark Rubbing



- Peel the paper from a large crayon, or use a thick piece of sidewalk chalk.
- Press a sheet of thin paper up against the bark of a tree. It may help if you tape it in place with masking tape.
- Gently rub the side of the crayon or chalk on the paper until the pattern of the bark shows.
- Compare rubbings from different trees. Which bark patterns make the nicest rubbings? Can you tell which rubbing came from which kind of tree?
- For either bark or leaf you can make more art by using multiple colors.

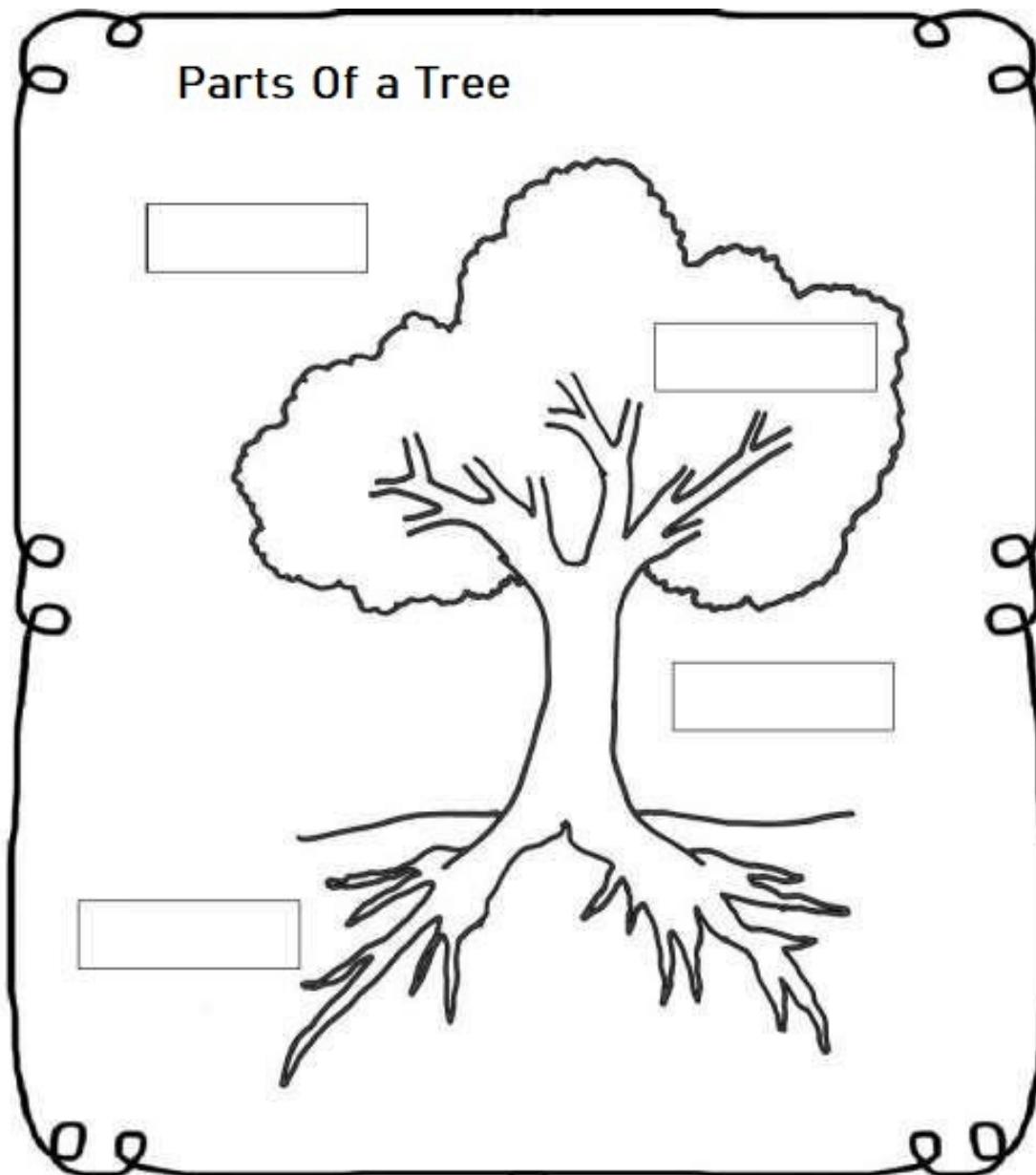
Leaf Rubbings

- Collect interesting leaves, and lay them flat on a hard, smooth surface.
- Cover the leaves with paper, and rub the side of the crayon or chalk on the paper.
- Ask an adult to spray the pictures with hair spray to keep chalk from smearing.



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Parts of a Tree



Trunk	Leaves
Branches	Roots

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What do trees need to grow?

Write the word that will make the sentence correct.

sunlight	car	air	good soil
oxygen	water	a large space	

Trees need _____ to grow.

Trees need _____ to grow.

Trees need _____ to grow.

Trees need _____ to grow BIG!

Trees produce _____ for us to breathe.

Trees help clean the _____.