

Other Possible Activities

1. Trees are often associated with special memories. Interview your parents or some other adult to learn about any memories they have which are associated with trees. Write this memory as if it were a news story. Remember to address the five W's (who, what, when, where, and why).
2. Brainstorm a list of careers that are either directly or indirectly related to trees. Choose one career to research. Write a description of the qualifications necessary to be successful in that career.
3. Have students look in the Yellow Pages and contact local businesses such as paper mills, lumber yards, and cabinet companies to explore how products are made from trees.
4. Have each student choose one of the 21 trees on the Tree Identification Poster and have them research the different areas where the tree can be found. What do these areas have in common that make them good environments for growing this type of tree? Research the soil, climate, elevation, and other factors. Then create a profile of the type of environment which is best for growing this tree. They can also create a model, which most closely resembles this environment.
5. Have each student draw his or her own map of Minnesota. Then have them place icons, which represent certain kinds of Minnesota trees, in the appropriate places.
6. Use different painting techniques to create different images of the same kind of tree. Use finger paints, tempera paints with brushes, and water colors.
7. Find stories which have trees or forests as the setting. For each story, ask the students why they think a forest was chosen as the setting for the story and if the story could have taken place somewhere else.
8. Have each student select his or her favorite Minnesota tree. Have them draw a picture of the tree and write a paragraph explaining why it is their favorite.
9. Use the letters from a tree name to come up with other words. For example, you could come up with "leap" from "maple." See which tree name can be used to make the most words.
10. Using graph paper, mark the maximum height of a given tree on a vertical line above a starting point. Then mark the maximum diameter of that same tree on a horizontal line to the side of the starting point. Connect the two lines to make a triangle. Do this for all of the Minnesota trees. Ask the students to describe how these triangles demonstrate the size and shape of these trees.
11. Have the students select another state and make a list of the trees that can be found in that state. Have them exchange lists (not telling the other student which state is being represented) and see if they can guess the state.
12. For other fun activities, refer to our website: www.minntrees.org