

WOODSY OWL



Woody's
Home

ACTIVITY

2

Meet the Trees!

Get to know the trees in
your neighborhood.



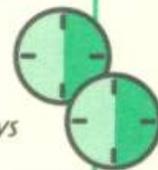
What you need

String, Construction paper, Tape, Scissors,
White paper, Crayons, Paste (optional),
Old magazines (optional), Measuring
tape or ruler

Time

30 minutes to meet the trees

30 minutes to make tree displays



1

Get Started by telling children that they're going to meet the local trees. What are the different parts of a tree? As a group, read *The Giving Tree*, by Shel Silverstein (New York: Harper Collins, 1964). Make a list of reasons why trees are nice to have around. Here are a few:

1

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1. *Trees make things cool and shady.*
2. *Trees make good homes for squirrels and birds, including owls like Woodsy.*
3. *Trees grow tasty fruits like apples and oranges.*
4. *People can use trees to make wood, paper, medicines, and other useful things.*

2

Have children form small groups. Give each one a piece of string about 30 inches long. Walk to an area with a lot of trees. Each group can choose a tree to meet and investigate. Here are some questions to get them started:

1. *Do you see any birds' nests in the branches or insects on the trunk?*
2. *Is the bark smooth or rough? What do the leaves look like?*
3. *Can you see the tree's roots?*



top of the sock. Pour enough dirt into a medium-sized box or terrarium to create a "hill" at one end. Put your hand through the sock so that your fingers become the tree roots and your arm becomes the trunk of the tree. Dig your fingers into the soil and pour water onto the dirt from the top of the hill. What happens? Remove your hand from the soil and continue to pour the water. What happens now? What do tree's roots do?

Materials: Box, brown sock, dirt, green felt, water

Follow with activities 8 (Woodsy's Paper Caper) and 10 (Team Trash Crafts).

Words to Know!

Root: part of a plant or tree below the ground that holds the plant or tree in place and draws water and food from the soil

Bark: outside covering of tree trunks that helps keep diseases and insects out of the tree and moisture inside the tree



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