

# Learning From Trees

ADAPTED FROM PROJECT  
LEARNING TREE

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Students will observe, investigate, and estimate measurements of a tree in their yard. Overall lesson addresses a number of learning objectives from pre-K to 6th grade and is suitable to send home as an activity for multiple grade levels. In addition to math and science, optional writing assignments include 4 different types of poetry, an essay on the trees view across time, or a paper on how the tree relates to the animals, plants, and trees around it and how does it solve the problems that it may have.

Virginia Standards of Learning

Science: K.1a,b,f; 1.1b,c,f; 2.1b,f, 2.5, 2.8; 3.1b, 3.5

English: K.1, K.7; 1..1, 1.7, 1.12; 2.1, 2.6, 2.10, 2.12; 3.1, 3.8, 3.9; 4.1, 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9; 5.5, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9; 6.5, 6.9

Math: K.9, K.10; 5.4, 5.5, 5.10; 6.6, 6.12



## Overview for the Teacher

This lesson has several different pieces. You may choose to use one, several, or all of the pieces depending upon the needs of your students. Appropriate handouts are included.

**ADOPT A TREE:** This lesson has students go outside and interact with their tree. They will name the tree, make observations, describe the tree, make bark and/or leaf rubbings, look for evidence of animals using their tree, and compare the tree to nearby objects for location and size.

**HOW TALL IS THAT TREE?** Using a ruler and some basic math, students will estimate the height of their tree.

**POET-TREE:** Students have the opportunity to write about and describe their tree using acrostic poetry or shape poetry (or both).

**LIFE OF A TREE:** This is an alternative to the poetry and is suitable for older students. Students will write an essay about life from their tree's perspective and pull in other content.

- History: If it as old tree, they may choose to write about changes through time.
- Social-Emotional: How does the tree relate to the plants, animals, and people around it, and the problems that it has.