

HUMBER ARBORETUM ECO CENTRE TREES

INTERESTING FACTS

- ✦ In 50 years one tree recycles more than \$37,000 worth of water, provides \$31,000 worth of erosion control, \$62,000 worth of air pollution control, and produces \$37,000 worth of oxygen.
- ✦ Trees help reduce the "greenhouse effect" by absorbing CO². One acre of trees removes 2.6 tons of CO² per year. One person causes about 10 tons of carbon dioxide to be emitted a year.
- ✦ Shade trees can make buildings up to 6.5 degrees cooler in the summer.
- ✦ The world's tallest tree is a coastal redwood in California, measuring more than 360 ft or 110 m.
- ✦ Trees are the longest living and largest living organisms on Earth.
- ✦ The world's oldest trees are 4,600 year old Bristlecone pines in the USA
- ✦ Tree roots stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.
- ✦ Two mature trees provide enough oxygen for a family of four.
- ✦ Well placed trees help cut energy costs and consumption by decreasing air conditioning costs 10-50% and reducing heating costs as much as 5-20%.

COOL ACTIVITIES

LEAF RUBBINGS

- ✦ Take your students on a walk around your school property (Or you can collect leaves in the fall and save them).
- ✦ Collect leaves that have fallen on the ground but are still intact. Bring these leaves back to the classroom and using a tree guide try and figure out what kind of leaves you have found (try keeping to the easier ones ie: Maple, Oak, Birch, Beech).
- ✦ Pair the students up so that one can hold the paper while the other uses the wide part of a crayon to colour over the area where the leaf is. Have the students put the name of the tree leaf on their page.
- ✦ A fun twist on this activity is to tell the students to make a forest floor by tracing over lots of different leaves and drawing some sticks and whatever they think should be on the forest floor.

TREE FACT SHEET

- ✦ This is a great activity for older students. Have them collect one perfect leaf and find out what tree it comes from (best to do this in the fall when there are lots to choose from).
- ✦ Place the leaf between two sheets of wax paper and put something very heavy (Text Book) on top of it. Leave it for a couple of days.
- ✦ Glue the pressed leaf on to a piece of paper and write a fact sheet about that tree.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What does the term deciduous mean? Name five different types of deciduous trees in the Humber Arboretum? (ANS: The term deciduous refers to those trees that drop their leaves every fall. In the Arboretum we have Sugar Maple, Black Maple, Bur Oak, Bitternut Hickory, American Beech, White Ash, and Ironwood.
2. What is the difference between an Evergreen and a Conifer? (ANS: An evergreen is any tree that keeps its leaves/needles for the entire year. A conifer is a tree that produces a cone but may not keep its needles for the entire year, an example of this is the Tamarack tree which produces a cone but drops its needles every year.
3. What is the provincial tree of Ontario? List two ways first nations people used this tree? The Eastern White Pine is Ontario's provincial tree. The needles of the white pine have a lot of Vitamin C and were brewed in teas to treat or prevent "scurvy." The sap has been used for glue but also has many anti-microbial properties which was why it was sometimes mixed with other ingredients and applied to wounds to prevent infection.