



Adopt a Tree



**Deepen your awareness of trees over time by adopting your own tree!
Find your very own special tree in your backyard or neighborhood.**

How do I select my tree?

It is up to you! You may choose the tallest tree, the smallest, or the “cutest”. No matter what tree you pick, you should be able to say why you chose it. You can tie a colored piece of yarn around your tree to identify it, or place a stone near it, or make a sign for it.

Fill out the “**Adopt a Tree Certificate**” (attached) after you have chosen your tree.

Observe your tree!

Answer questions about your tree. Visit your tree on a regular basis and record observations. You can do this on plain notebook or construction paper, or you could make your own “tree notebook” and decorate it. Each time you visit your tree, write a few sentences or make drawings.

Questions and Observations for your Tree:

- Where is your tree? Draw a map to show its location.
- Is your tree alive? How can you tell? In what ways are people helping or hurting it?
- Do you know what type of tree you have adopted? Does it have any leaves, fruit, nuts, or seeds that can help you identify it?
- Are there any animals on or near your tree? Don’t forget to look for insects, spiders, or other small animals! Can you see any bird or squirrel nests in your tree?
- Are there any signs that animals have used your tree in the past? Look for holes, nests, scratches. How do those animals depend on your tree? Do they harm it?
- Make a leaf rubbing. How does the leaf smell? How does it feel?
- Make a bark rubbing. How does the bark feel?
- Draw a picture of your tree from different places: from far away or looking up.
- Describe any changes you notice. Are there broken branches or new leaves?
- Close your eyes and listen. Do you hear any sounds or bird calls from your tree?
- Write a poem about your tree.

Adopt a Tree Certificate

Official Tree Name

Nickname

Birthplace

Circumference

Height

Age

Identifying Characteristics

Adopted By

Date

One Interesting Thing About My Tree Is:



Make a Leaf Rubbing in the space above.