

Adams County Mini 4-H

Trees



Adams County Extension Office
313 West Jefferson St., Suite 213
Decatur, IN 46733
260-724-5322

Draft Developed by:
Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service
Area 7 4-H Youth Development Educators from
Blackford, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Henry, Jay,
Madison, Randolph, Rush, Union, & Wayne counties



Mini 4-H Parent's Page



Welcome to the Mini 4-H Program! Mini 4-H is designed for youth and allows them to explore a variety of project areas.

Your child received this project manual when enrolling in Mini 4-H. This manual will provide fun, age-appropriate learning activities throughout their year(s) in Mini 4-H and their interest in this project.

As a Mini 4-H parent, your job will be guide and encourage your child through the activity. It is strongly suggested that you do not complete the activities for them. Instead, help them, guide them, work with them, and let them do all they possibly can. The 4-H motto is "learn by doing" and is the best educational tool we can provide for youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is set up to allow your child to exhibit a project at the 4-H Fair. This project is based on information in this manual.

The 4-H Fair is an exciting time for 4-H members and families. It is a week that allows community youth to showcase their talents, interests, and enthusiasm for learning.

Mini 4-H is fun! Your child will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as your child participates in the program. Encourage and praise your child as he/she has fun learning and sharing with you.

If you have any questions regarding Mini 4-H or other 4-H programs, please feel free to contact your local Extension Office.



Mini 4-Her's Page



Welcome to Mini 4-H! You are now a member of the 4-H family. You are a special person.

Mini 4-Hers have lots of fun! There are lots of activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share it with your friends and family.

Mom, Dad, or another adult can help you with your project. Bring your project to the 4-H Fair and lots of people will be able to see what you have done. You also get a ribbon made just for Mini 4-Hers.

Things to Know About 4-H

The 4-H Symbol:

A four-leaf clover with an "H" in each leaf.

The 4-H Colors:

Green and white

The 4-H Motto:

To make the best, better.

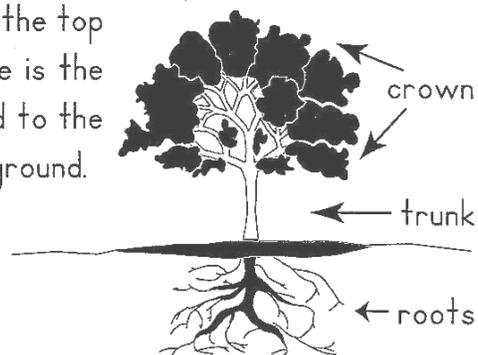
The 4-H Pledge:

I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking,
my HEART to greater loyalty,
my HANDS to larger service, and
my HEALTH to better living, for my club,
my community, my country, and my world.



Activity 1 — Tree Parts

The main parts of a tree are the leaves, branches, trunk, and roots. The leaves are attached to twigs on the branches. The leaves, twigs, and branches together are called the **crown**. The branches are attached to the top of the trunk of the tree. The trunk of the tree is the middle part of the tree. The roots are attached to the bottom of the trunk and are mostly under the ground.



Things you need:

- crayons or markers
- stapler
- scissors

What you do:

1. Color the tree on the **Tree Activity Page**.
2. Cut along the dotted lines on the **Tree Parts Activity Page**.
3. Lay the **Tree Parts Activity Page** on top of the **Tree Activity Page**.
Staple where you see this 
4. Fold back each flap, one at a time, to make a door so you can see the part of the tree the label is naming.

Things to talk about:

Crown, branches, twigs, leaves, trunk, roots, top, bottom, middle, under, over

STRETCHERS

1. Help children compare their own body parts to the parts of a tree. Compare the twigs to fingers and toes, the bark to skin, the branches to their arms and legs, etc.
2. For groups, make a large tree out of paper. Encourage each child to make an apple out of paper. Roll up a small piece of tape on the back of each child's apple. Blindfold each child in turn and have them "pin the apple on the tree."

Tree Parts Activity Page

Crown

Leaves, Branches
and Twigs

Trunk

Roots

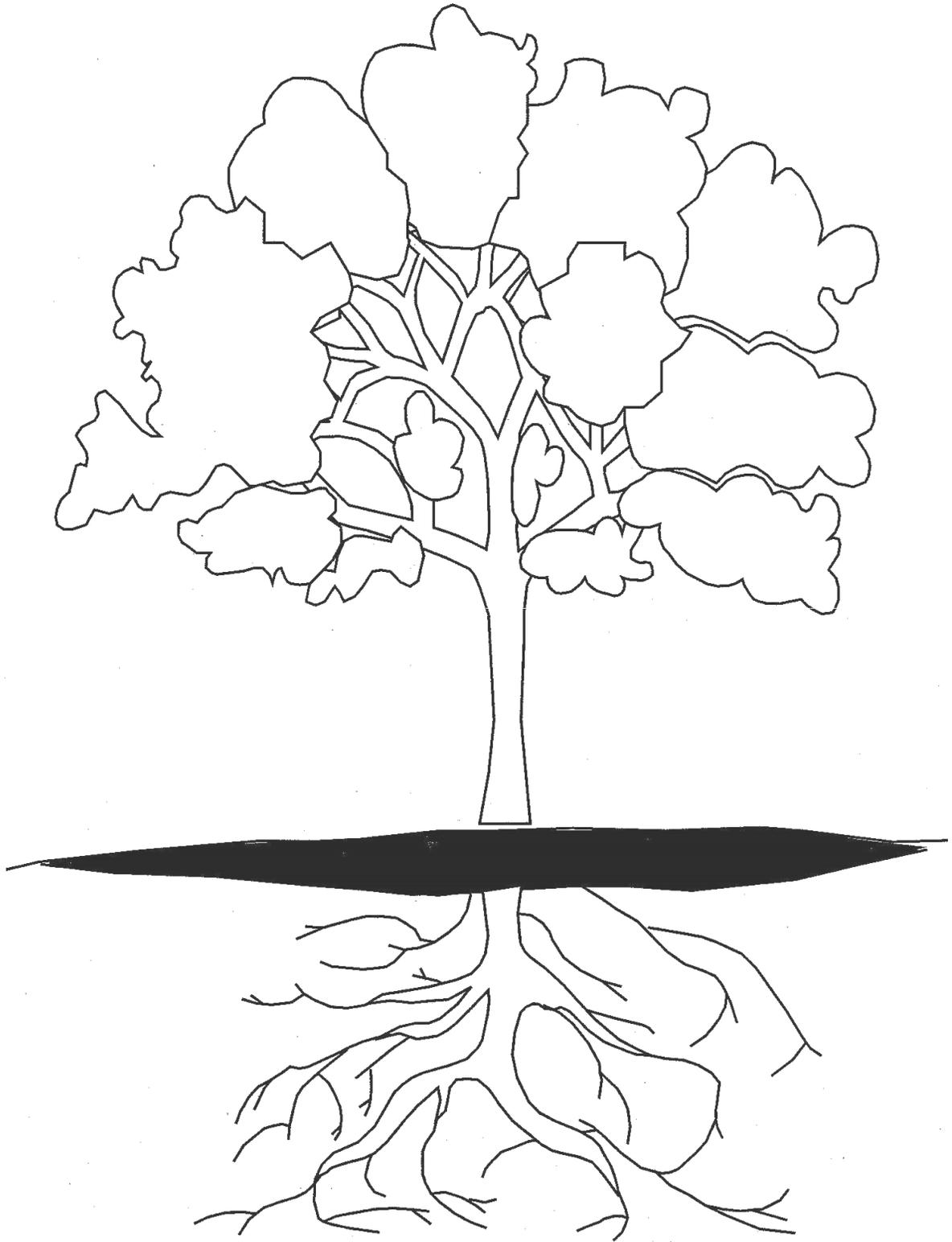
Fold here

Fold here

Fold here

Fold here

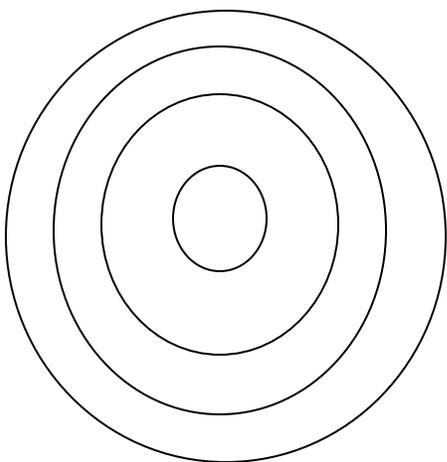
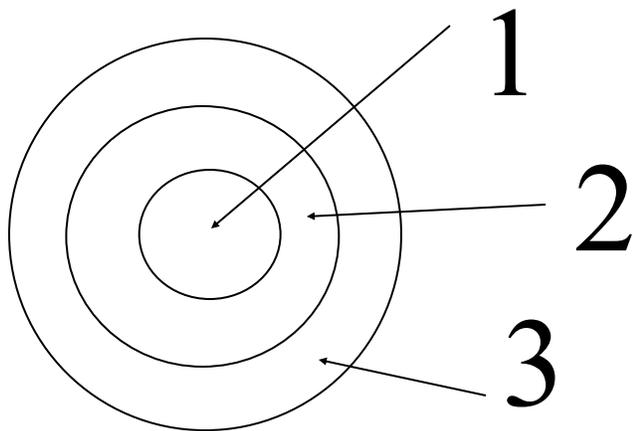
Tree Activity Page



Activity 2—How Old Are Trees?

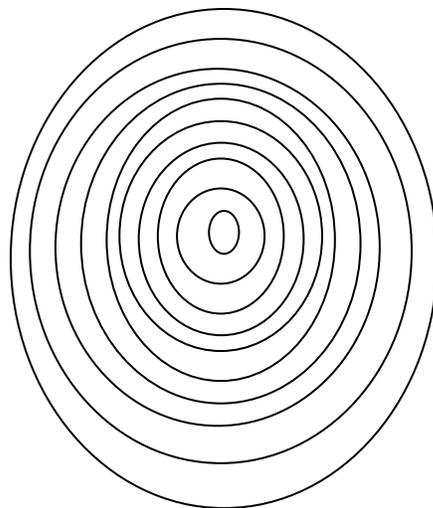
Every year trees add one **ring** or layer of wood to their trunk. You can find out how old a tree is by counting the rings. Start in the middle with the oldest ring and count all the rings until you get to the outside ring. The number of rings you counted is the number of years old a tree is.

This tree is 3 years old.



How old is this tree?

_____ years old



How old is this tree?

_____ years old

How old are you? On a piece of paper draw a tree with the same number of rings in it as your age. (Hint: It is easiest to start with the center ring and add rings around it.)

Activity 3—Branches

Branches grow from the trunks of trees. Most branches have twigs, leaves, buds, or flowers growing from them.

Leaves grow on different trees in different ways. Some trees have leaves that grow straight across the twig from other leaves.

This is called

Opposite

and looks like this



Some trees have leaves that grow so they are not straight across the twig from other leaves.

This is called

Alternate

and looks like this



Things you need:

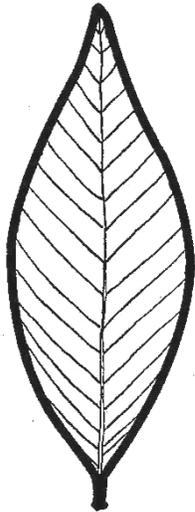
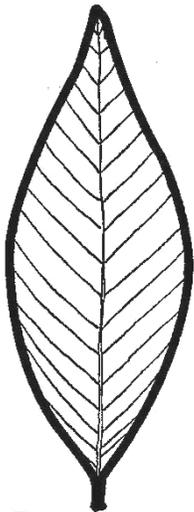
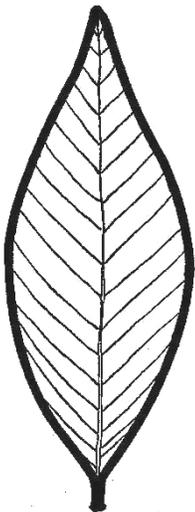
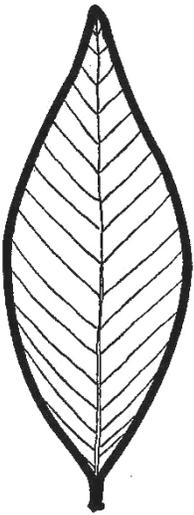
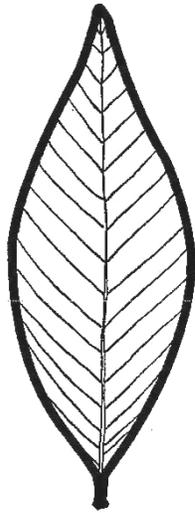
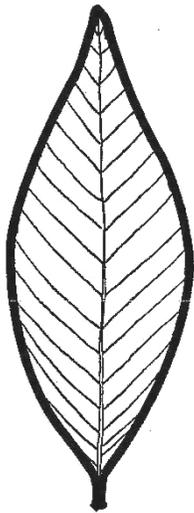
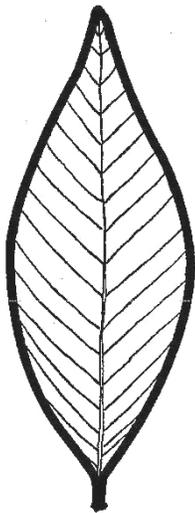
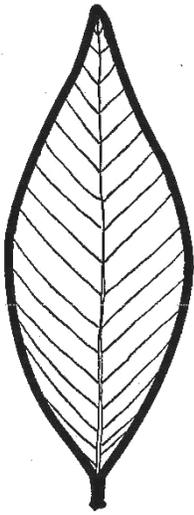
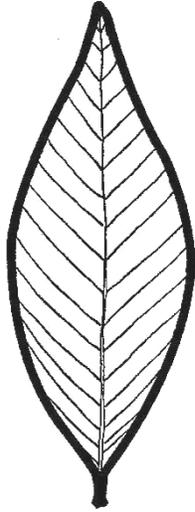
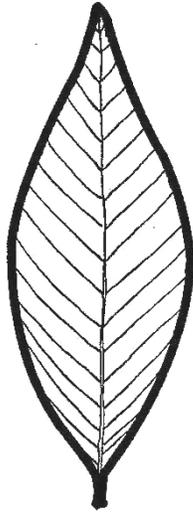
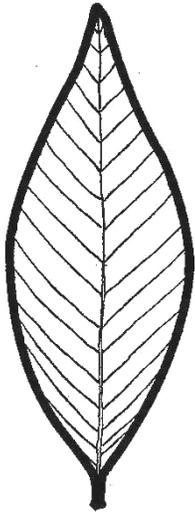
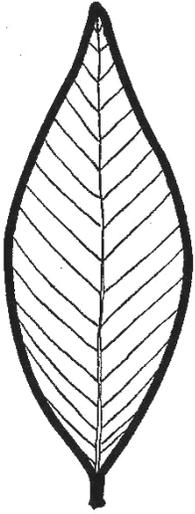
- Leaf Activity Page
- Opposite Matching Page
- Alternate Matching Page
- scissors
- glue
- crayons

What you do:

1. Color all the leaves on the Leaf Activity Page.
2. Cut along the dotted lines on the Leaf Activity Page. Children more experienced with scissors may choose to cut out the leaves using the solid black lines.
3. Glue leaves in the boxes on the Opposite Matching Page and the Alternate Matching Page to match the patterns on each page.

Things to talk about:

Opposite, alternate, patterns, matching, same, different

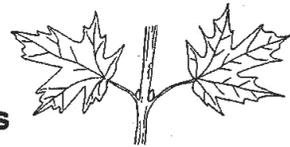


Leaf Activity Page

Opposite Matching Page

Opposite

Match This



Alternate Matching Page

Alternate

Match This



Activity 4—Leaves

Leaves are helpful to trees. They use sunshine to make food for the tree to help it grow. Feel the leaves. Are they smooth or fuzzy? Do they feel more rough on one side than the other? All leaves do the same job even if they don't all look the same. The bottom side of leaves have veins or ridges on them. The veins help the leaves to get water so they can grow.

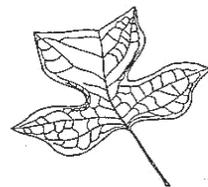
Tree leaves come in many different sizes and shapes. Leaves can be bigger than your hand or smaller than your smallest finger. Many leaves have shapes that look like other things. A leaf can look like a fan, a star, a mitten, or a needle. Other leaves have shapes all their own.

Leaves can be many different colors. In the summer most leaves are green but some can be yellow, purple, or other colors. Many leaves change color in the fall. Some colors you might see are red, gold, yellow, orange, and brown.

Trees called evergreens have leaves that stay green all year. Some evergreen leaves are shaped like needles and some have scales on them. Most trees lose all their leaves in the fall of the year but evergreen trees keep their leaves even in the winter.

Things you need:

- Leaf Name Activity Page
- 2 Leaf Book Activity Pages
- stapler
- scissors
- crayons or markers
- glue



What you do:

1. Color all leaves on the 2 Leaf Book Activity Pages. Lay these pages aside.
2. Cut the shapes with names of leaves on them from the Leaf Name Activity Page.
3. Glue each shape where it goes on the Leaf Book Activity Pages.
4. Cut along dotted lines of both Leaf Book Activity Pages.
5. Staple pages together to make a book. Be sure to put the page with the title on it on the top.

Leaf Name Activity Page

Tulip

Black
Walnut

White
Oak

White Pine

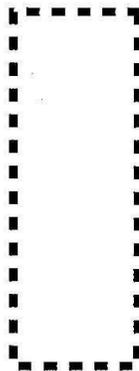
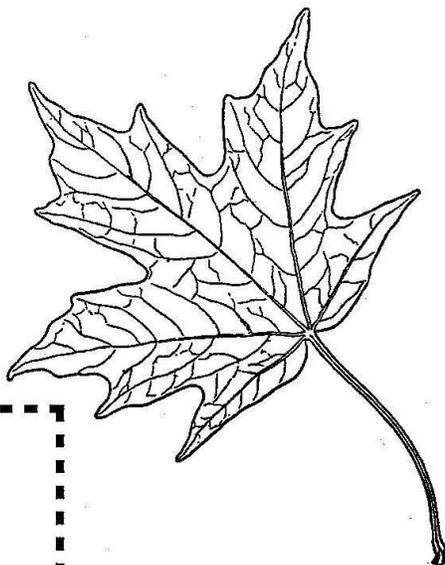
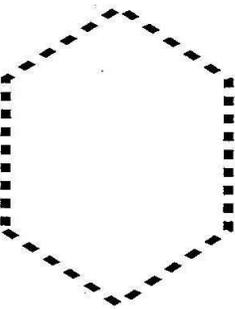
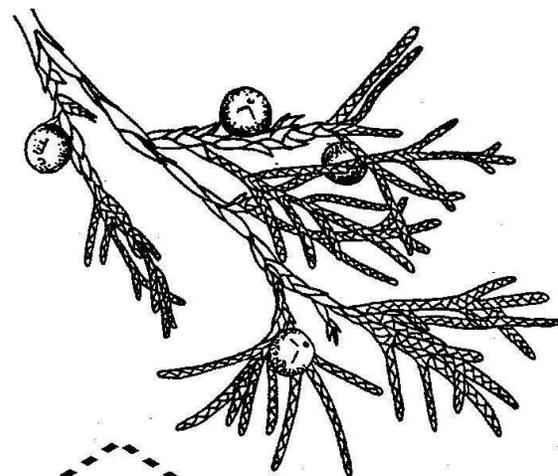
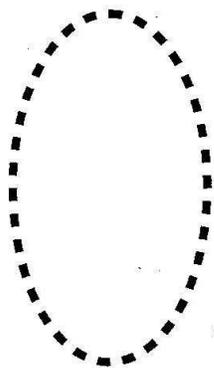
Redbud

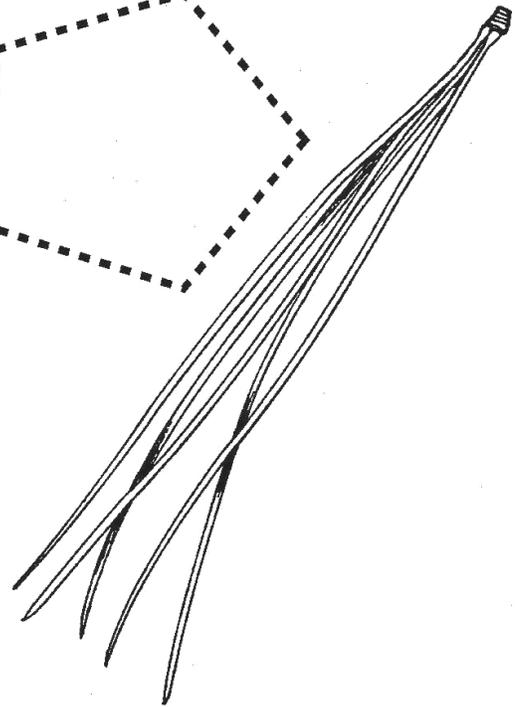
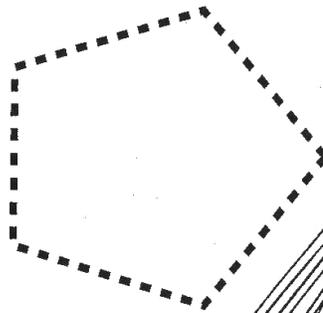
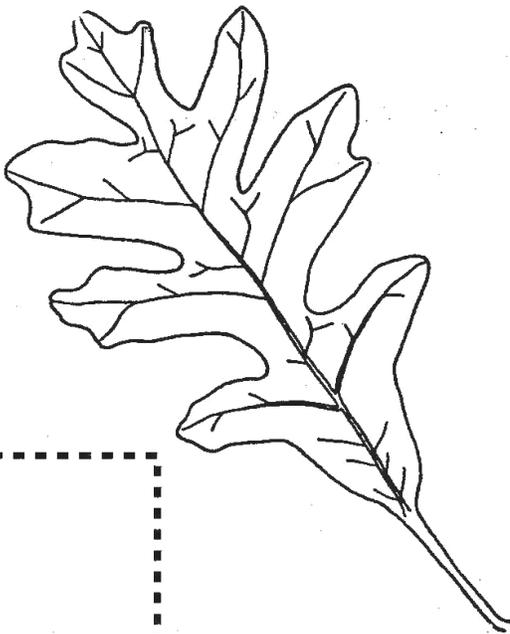
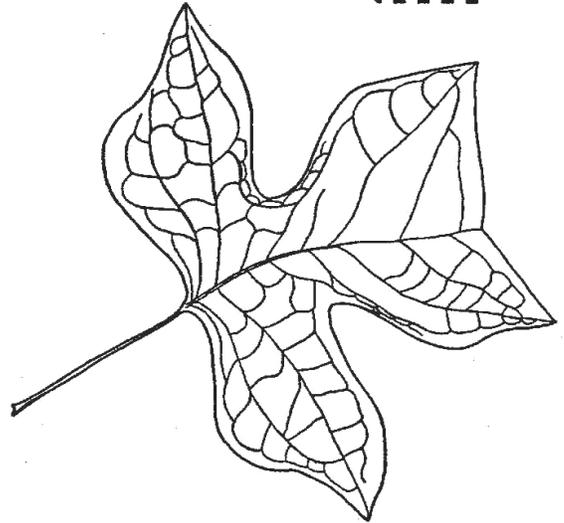
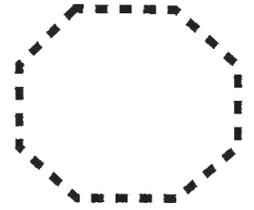
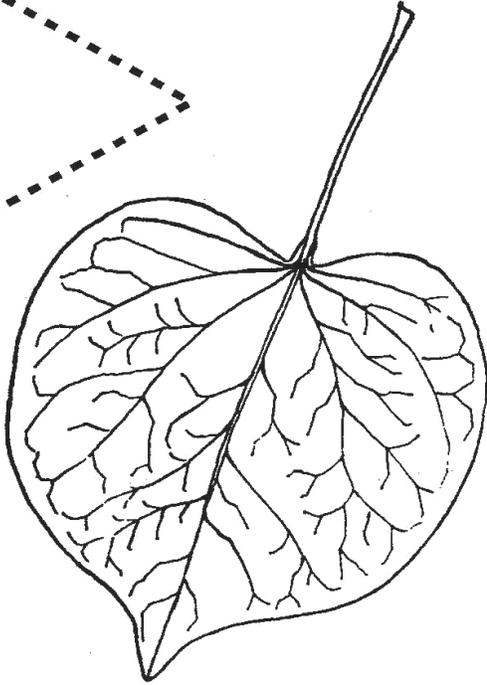
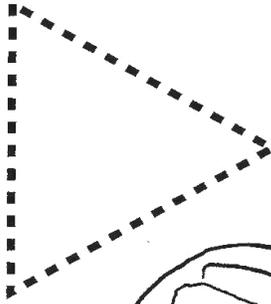
Red Cedar

Sugar Maple

My Leaf Book

by _____





Activity 5 – Animal Homes

Materials you might need:

- pencil
- crayon
- scissors
- 14" x 22" poster board
- paper
- magazine
- glue
- camera – optional



Make a poster with pictures cut from a magazine or pictures taken with a camera of animals that make their homes in trees. A title for your poster could be "Animals That Live in Trees." Use 5 to 7 picture on your poster. —OR— Draw and color a picture of an animal and its home in a tree such as a bird in a nest in a tree, or a squirrel or raccoon in a hole in a tree.

Materials you might need:

- pencil
- chart
- clipboard

Activity 6 – Test Your Senses

- paper
- glue or tape
- container for collecting items

Take a walk in the woods. List in the chart below what you saw, smelled, heard, or touched. List 5 to 7 things in your chart. Use one white piece of paper for each sense — saw, smelled, heard, and touched. Write or draw what you saw, smelled, heard, or touched. If you collected any items, place or glue them to the piece of paper. Use colored construction paper for the front and back and staple together. Put a title and your name on your "Senses Book."

My Forestry Senses

What I Saw	What I Smelled	What I Heard	What I Touched