



Tree Factory

Parts of a Tree Activity Cards

Background:

These cards serve as a resource for PLT Activity 63: Tree Factory. These cards are suitable for grades 3-8.

Use:

The following cards are intended to be printed and used as name tags to be held or worn during the activity. The letter at the top of each card represents the order that the tree will be created in, starting with the heartwood at the center. The numbers on the bottom indicate the number of students that can be used for each part of the tree for a class of approximately 25 students.

*Adapted by Karen Christenson

a.

Heartwood

"I stand tall."

Heartwood forms the central core of the tree.
It is made up of dense dead wood
and provides strength for the tree.

(1)

b.

Sapwood

“We pump, we pump.”

Sapwood, also called xylem (ZEYE-luhm,) brings water and nutrients up from the roots to the leaves.

Older sapwood cells become part of the heartwood.

(3)

c.

Cambium

(KAM-bee-uhm)

“We make new cells.”

Cambium is a very thin layer of growing tissue in the tree.
It makes cells that become
new sapwood, inner bark, or cambium.

(5)

d.

Inner Bark

“We bring sap around.”

The inner bark is also called phloem (FLOW-uhm.)

It carries sap from the leaves to the rest of the tree.

At certain times of the year, the inner bark may also move stored sugars from the roots up to the rest of the tree.

(6)

e.

Outer Bark

*“We protect,
we protect.”*

The outer bark protects the tree from injury caused by insects, animals, plants, diseases, and fire. Different types of trees have different types of bark.

(8)

f.

Roots

“We anchor the tree.”

Roots help anchor the tree in the ground.
They also absorb water and nutrients from the soil.

(3)

(g)

Insect

“I hide, I hide!”

The insect tries to find a place to hide
in the bark of the tree.

(1)

(h)

Woodpecker

"I hunt for insects."

The woodpecker drills holes in the outer bark to find insects to eat.

(1)