

SEEDS TO TREES

The Pocket Guide includes four hands-on experiences that introduce nature to children ages 3–6, encouraging exploration and discovery through the lens of trees and forests. It is designed for adult leaders, educators, and families to use with young children in groups up to eight.

The activities in this pocket guide help young learners understand forest concepts such as:

- Trees are living plants and are made of recognizable parts.
- Trees help to conserve the air, soil, water, and wildlife.
- Trees give us food, wood, paper, and other products.
- People can help trees and forests thrive by caring for them.
- Trees are a renewable resource.

Exercises in the guide work well on their own as well as collectively. Adapt the activities to meet the unique needs of the children you work with, the natural environment in your area, and the materials that you have available.

CONNECTING WITH FORESTS

Exposing young children to nature is vital to raising the next generation of environmental stewards. Teaching children to value trees helps them understand why we sustainably manage forests.

You can deepen learners' understanding of trees and forests by:

- Providing learning opportunities, both indoors and outdoors.
- Inviting children to touch objects produced from forests.
- Encouraging children to name natural objects and tree parts.
- Motivating auditory, visual, and kinesthetic learners by using all the senses when observing nature.

