

# Tree Facts Activity by Cindy O'Hora

<http://www.mrsoshouse.com/ext/tree/tree.html>

**Directions:** Use the links to find the answers to the questions. Use the browser's Go menu to return to this web page. Several questions require research using a web search engine.

1. How many species of trees are there in the world?

2. The study of trees is called \_\_\_\_\_

The science that studies living organisms is called biology.  
A scientist who studies biology is called a biologist.

Think about it - A scientist who studies trees is called \_\_\_\_\_

3. Scientists divide trees into several categories. Write each group. Give a fact for each group. Write one tree species in that group.

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4. A small number of trees growing together is called a \_\_\_\_\_

Many trees growing together is called a \_\_\_\_\_

5. How does a tree grow? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Use the diagram on the (above linked) web page to answer these questions.

a. The outer most layer on a tree is called \_\_\_\_\_

b. What is the role of this outer layer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. The inner most layer of a tree's trunk is called \_\_\_\_\_

6. Although you do not see it, trees breathe. Explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How is this important to you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Look up your state tree in the USDAFS Silvics of North America. Could that species of tree grow on your school's property? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Trees can be identified by their leaves. Scientists distinguish one leaf from another by shape.

How many different leaf shapes are there?

A hastate shaped leaf resembles a geometric shape. Draw the shape.

**Think About It:** How could you identify a tree that has no leaves?

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9. Scan/read the article Red Maple and Black Birch: Pennsylvania's New Dominant Species.

a. What factors have impacted the forest? \_\_\_\_\_

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b. What animals have contributed to the decline of oaks? \_\_\_\_\_

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c. How are oaks important to the survival of many forest animals? \_\_\_\_\_

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d. What do you predict will be the outcome of these changes in the forest? \_\_\_\_\_

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e. Name two traits of Black Birch trees that are helping it succeed in the forest. \_\_\_\_\_

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TAI - List two ways people could intervene in this succession process. \_\_\_\_\_

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10. Use your online research skills to discover 3 different ways that people have used bark.

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11. How many National Register of Big Trees are found in your state? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the species of the largest tree in your state? \_\_\_\_\_

12. How are trees helping to solve a challenging problem? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Go out on a Limb:

13 Evaluate - [The Giving Shade Tree](http://environmentreport.org/story.php?story_id=4302) – ([http://environmentreport.org/story.php?story\\_id=4302](http://environmentreport.org/story.php?story_id=4302)) Are the trees around your school planted in a way that will reduce the building's energy demands?. Explain.

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14. Select a tree at your home, school or local park.

Input the data - [National Tree Benefit Calculator](http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator/) <http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator/>

What are its benefits?

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## Leaf it to me. A Learn about Trees facts hunt

Some trees have become cherished symbols or vital parts of communities. For Example, the Liberty Tree becaome a symbol of the American Revolution.

Identify one highly valued tree in your region. Why is it revered?

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**Lineage challenge** - trace the lineage of a tree that grows in your community. I'll get you started. Trees belong to the kingdom Plantae. They are all Eukaryotes. Print the worksheet and use the Tree of Life Project to trace a tree from Eukaryotes to the individual tree species. (MS/HS)