

# THE GIVING TREE

**Objective:** Students will learn all of the parts of a tree and explore how each of these parts are used to make a wide variety of common products.

**Illinois State Goals: 12.A., 12.B.**

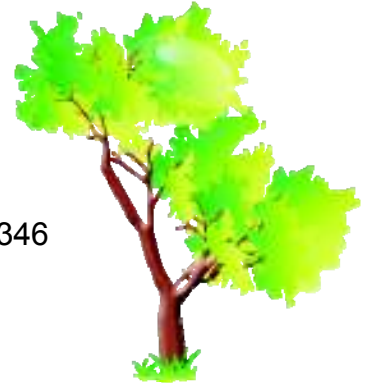
**Top Book Hits:**

The Tree Farmer by Chuck Leveau & Nicholas Cravotta;

**ISBN-13:** 978-1893622166

A Grand Old Tree by Mary Newell DePalma; **ISBN-13:** 978-0439623346

The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein; **ISBN-13:** 978-0060586751



**Materials Needed:**

- Leaves – an umbrella with paper leaves attached
- Wood – a small piece of wood with a long string attached to wear as a necklace
- Bark – a vest made from a paper grocery bag, decorated with squiggly line to resemble patterned bark
- Roots – rope tied together at different lengths with knots in it tied at the students feet
- Flowers – a headband decorated with small yellow, green, or white flowers made from pipe cleaners
- Fruits – fruit shapes cut out of construction paper and hung on loops of string to hang over the students outstretched arms
- Seeds – gloves with paper cut outs of seeds attached to each finger
- Sap – two jugs of water to shake

**Procedure:**

1. Assemble the pretend parts of a tree as directed in the materials needed.
2. Ask the students to brainstorm a list of all the things that trees give us and write down a list.
3. Have the students list the eight different parts of the tree: leaves, wood, bark, roots, flowers, fruits, seeds, sap.
4. As each part is mentioned, have one student come to the front of the class to “wear” that part of the tree.
5. Once each part is represented in front of the class, start matching items from their lists to the different parts of the tree.

**Grow Further:** Ask students to compare the parts of a tree to the parts of a flower. Ask students to discuss different types of trees and where they can be found around the world. Have students conduct a tree inventory in their homes by surveying each room for products made from trees. Try some unusual edible tree treats such as mangos, pomegranates, dried figs, whole coconuts, kiwi fruit or papaya.