In Acknowledgement

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Utah Third Edition, January, 1999

TREES FOR TOMORROW
OUR GIFT TO THE EARTH
Utah Arbor Day Committee

STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands

ARBOR DAY LETTER
of
PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT
To The School Children of The United States

Arbor Day (which means simply "Tree Day") is now observed in every state in our Union — and mainly in the schools. At various times, from January to December, but chiefly in this month of April, you give a day or part of a day to special exercises and perhaps to actual tree planting, in recognition of the importance of trees to us as a Nation, and of what they yield in adornment, comfort, and useful products to the communities in which you live.

It is well that you should celebrate your Arbor Day thoughtfully, for within your lifetime the Nation's need of trees will become serious. We of an older generation can get along with what we have, though with growing hardship; but in your full manhood and womanhood you will want what nature once so bountifully supplied, and man so thoughtlessly destroyed; and because of that want you will reproach us, not for what we have used, but for what we have wasted.

For the nation, as for the man or woman or boy or girl, the road to success is the right use of what we have and the improvement of present opportunity. If you neglect to prepare yourselves now for the duties and responsibilities which will fall upon you later, if you do not learn the things which you will need to know when your school days are over, you will suffer the consequences. So any nation which in its youth lives only for the day, reaps without sowing, and consumes without husbanding, must expect the penalty of the prodigal, whose labor could with difficulty find him the bare means of life.

A people without children would face a hopeless future; a country without trees is almost as hopeless; forests which are so used that they cannot renew themselves will soon vanish, and with them all their benefits. A true forest is not merely a storehouse full of wood, but, as it were, a factory of wood, and at the same time a reservoir of water. When you help to preserve our forests or plant new ones you are acting the part of good citizens. The value of forestry deserves, therefore, to be taught in the schools, which aim to make good citizens of you. If your Arbor Day exercises help you to realize what benefits each one of you receives from the forests, and how by your assistance these benefits may continue, they will serve a good end.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT
White House, April 15, 1907

A Teachers' Guide to Arbor Month

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Arbor Day

Background and Ceremony Ideas

Objectives

•To motivate youngsters to love, conserve, and plant trees for a better environment.

•To provide a plan for conducting Arbor Day/ Arbor Month ceremonies or tree planting campaigns.

Tree planting is what a Utah Arbor Day Celebration is all about. Just one tree planted on Arbor Day does more than shade the spot where it's planted. It gives root to the love of trees and the stewardship of renewable resources

This *"Teachers' Guide to Arbor Month"* is a collection of bulletin board ideas, tips, facts, activities, and reproducibles designed to make your observance an exciting and lovely tradition...and to help young people become tree conscious all year long. Through Arbor Day celebrations and teaching students about trees, you help them plant the future for themselves and for generations of Utahns to come!

Arbor Day

To everyone concerned with the protection and conservation of tree resources, Arbor Day is a day to celebrate! It's a special day when people learn about, plant, and care for trees.

Arbor Day is an American tradition. Arbor celebrations began in Nebraska in 1872. Nebraska, along with other Great Plains states, had almost no trees. Still, the region grew flourishing agriculture crops and the climate was suitable for growing trees. A man named J. Sterling Morton believed the state needed more trees. He sponsored a campaign for tree planting in Nebraska, setting aside April 10 for just that purpose. The idea spread. Utah has been observing Arbor Day since the 1800's as well. One of the official duties of the Governor is to declare a proclamation each year recommending the observance of Arbor Day, by the planting of trees, shrubs, and vines...

Today, Utahns celebrate Arbor Day on the last Friday in April, along with most states in the country. All fifty states observe Arbor Day on various dates by planting trees.

This chapter is your guide to planning complete Arbor Day/Month celebrations. Keep a Good Thing Growing!

Arbor Day Ceremony

Here's a framework of events you can specially adapt to your school or community. Your ceremony should include the reading of an Arbor Celebration proclamation and the planting of one or more trees. It can be much more, however. Singing, reading poems, entertainment by musicians and other performers, and refreshments all lend a festive air to your program and encourage more widespread participation.

Here is a typical order of events for an Arbor Ceremony:

1. **Welcome** by mayor or other local dignitary.

2. **Brief history of Arbor Month** read by program coordinator, student, or business leader. (Use the "Arbor Day" paragraphs in column one or choose a summary from a library book or encyclopedia.)

3. **Reading and signing of Arbor Day/Month Proclamation** by mayor or other local dignitary.

4. **Poems or selected readings**. (Have students write or choose some. See also Suggested Poems and Song.)

5. **Ceremonial tree planting.** (See Appendix, page 3.)

6. **Refreshments** and other entertainment.

7. Many classes will follow up (or precede) their ceremonies with special classroom activities. *Under Cover* on page 4 of this chapter is an example.

Details to Remember

1. Foul weather contingency plans.

2. Printed programs. They hold events together.

3. Prepared-in-advance planting sites. Dig the holes in advance and provide mulch for each tree.

4. Follow-up tree care. ***Make sure someone comes back after the ceremony to water the tree(s) on a regular basis.*** Arrange to have one person or a group of people provide continued regular tree care.

5. Shovels. Have enough shovels for dignitaries...and remind them to wear sturdy shoes!

6. Media coverage. Provide write-ups for the media at the ceremony. Be available for questions.

7. Rehearse the details. A "dry run" the day before the ceremony helps you relax. You may decide to use a lectern, public address system, and other aids.

8. Refreshments. April and May are often cool; you may want to move indoors after the planting for hot drinks and more of the program.

Suggested Poems and Song for Arbor Day Ceremony

Trees

Trees are the kindest things I know,
They do no harm, they simply grow.

And spread a shade for sleepy cows,
And gather birds among the boughs.

They give us fruit in leaves above,
And wood to make our houses of.
And leaves to burn on Halloween,
And in the spring new buds of green.

They are the first when day's begun,
To touch the beams of morning sun.

They are the last to hold the light,
When evening changes into night.

And when the moon floats on the sky,
They hum a drowsy lullaby.

Of sleepy children long ago-
Trees are the kindest things I know.

Source unknown.

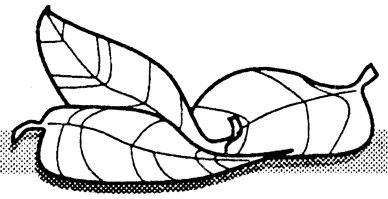
Why We Keep Arbor Day (for 7 children)

First: Trees of the fragrant forest,
With leaves of green unfurled,
Through summer's heat, through winter's cold
What do you do for our world?

Second: Our green leaves catch the raindrops,
That fall with soothing sound,
Then drop slowly, slowly down,
'Tis better for the ground.

Third: When rushing down the hillside,
A mighty fresh stream forms,
Our giant trunks and spreading roots
Defend our happy homes.

Fourth: From burning heat in summer,
We offer cool retreat,
Protect the land in winter's storm
From cold, and wind, and sleet.



Fifth: Our falling leaves in autumn,
By breezes turned and tossed,
Will make a deep sponge carpet warm
That saves the ground from frost.

Sixth: We give you pulp for paper,
Our fuel gives you heat;
We furnish lumber for your homes,
And nuts and fruits to eat.

Seventh: With strong and graceful outline,
With branches green and bare,
We fill the land all through the year
With beauty everywhere.

All: So-Listen from the forest
Each one a message sends
To children, on this Arbor Day
We trees are your best friends.

Anthem For Arbor Day
(To the tune of "My Country 'Tis of Thee")

Joy for the sturdy trees!
Fanned by each fragrant breeze,
Lovely they stand!
The songbirds o'er them trill,
They shade each tinkling rill,
They crowd each swelling hill,
Lowly or grand.

Plant them by stream and way,
Plant where the children play
And toilers rest,
In every verdant vale,
On every sunny swale,
Whether to grow or fail,
God knoweth best.

Select the strong, the fair,
Plant them, with earnest care-
No toil is vain.
Plant in a fitter place,
Where, like a lovely face,
Let in some sweeter grace
Change may prove gain.

God will his blessing send-
All things on him depend.
His loving care
Clings to each leaf and flower
Like ivy to its tower.
His presence and his power
Are everywhere.

-Samuel F. Smith

What Do We Plant?

What do we plant when we plant a tree?
We plant the ship, that will cross the sea.
We plant the mast to carry the sails;
We plant the plants to withstand the gales-
The keel, the keelson, and beam and knee;
We plant the ship when we plant the tree.

What do we plant when we plant the tree?
We plant the house for you and me.
We plant the rafters, the shingles, the floors,
We plant the studding, the lath, the doors,
The joists and siding, all parts that be:
We plant a house when we plant the tree.

What do we plant when we plant the tree?
A thousand things that we daily see;
We plant the spire that out-towers the crag,
We plant the staff for our country's flag,
We plant the shade, from the hot sun free;
We plant all these when we plant a tree.

The poems and song are from "A Teachers' Guide to Arbor Month," reprinted 1985.
Produced by Minnesota Department of Agriculture with assistance of many other agencies.

ARBOR DAY POEMS

TREES

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree

A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robbins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

—Joyce Kilmer

What does he plant who plants a tree
He plants, in sap and leaf and wood,
In love of home and loyalty,
And far-cast thought of civic good
His blessing on the neighborhood.

—Charles Lathrop Pack

THE TREE PLANTER

Whoever planted rows of trees
Beside the roads and lanes,
God rest his soul in Heavenly peace
And bless him for his pains;
For he who gave of time and toil,
Who gave of heart and hand
To nurse the tender shoots that were
To shade the ways of man,
Was quite as great as those who built
Of stone and minted gold —
No need to cast his name on bronze,
His deeds need not be told.

—Stanley Foss Bartlett

PLANTING A TREE

What does he plant who plants a tree?
A scion full of potency;
He plants his faith, a prophecy
Of bloom, and fruitfulness to be;
He plants a shade where robins sing,
Where orioles their nestlings swing:
A Burning Bush — a miracle!
Who plants a tree, — he doeth well!

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He makes a strong mast for the Sea;
He makes the earth productive, fair;
Helps the vines climb high in the air,
And from their censers shed perfume
To sweeten Night, and bless high Noon.
Against the vandals who despoil
He sets his protect in the soil.

What does he plant who plants a tree?
An emblem of the Men to be:
Who lightly touch terrestrial clay,
But far above the earth, away
From sordid things and base,
Incarnate ideals for their race, —
Who plants a tree, he doeth well, —
Performs with God, a miracle!

—Author Unknown

ARBOR DAY

"Tree Planting Day" they called it
In Nebraska long ago.
Now we call it Arbor Day, and
Oh, I love it so!
I love to plant a growing thing —
A tree, a shrub, a vine —
And know it will for years and years
Keep growing there, a sign
to children who come after me
That someone thought of them,
And left behind a living friend
More precious then a gem.

—Betty Foust Smith

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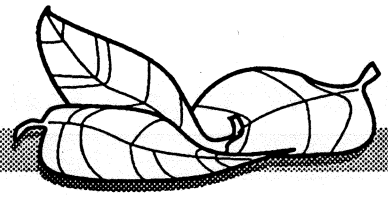

TREES OF THE FRAGRANT FOREST

(For six children. As they take their places upon the stage, those in seats recite the first stanza.)

Trees of the fragrant forest,
With leaves of green unfurled,
Through summer's heat, through winter's cold
What do you do for our world?

First: Our green leaves catch the raindrops
That fall with soothing sound,
Then drop them slowly, slowly down;
'Tis better for the ground.

Second: When, rushing down the hillside,
A mighty freshet foams,
Our giant trunks and spreading roots
Defend your happy homes.

Third: From burning heat in summer
We offer cool retreat,
Protect the land in winter's storm
From cold, and wind, and sleet.

Fourth: Our falling leaves in autumn,
By breezes turned and tossed,
Will rake a deep sponge-carpet warm,
Which saves the ground from frost.

Fifth: We give you pulp for paper,
Our fuel gives you heat;
We furnish lumber for your homes,
And nuts and fruit to eat.

Sixth: With strong and graceful outline,
With branches green and bare,
We fill the land through all the year,
With beauty everywhere.

All: So listen! From the forest
Each one a message sends
To children on this Arbor Day:
"We trees are your best friends!"

—Primary Education

I LOVE A TREE

When I pass to my reward,
Whatever that may be,
I'd like my friends to think of me
As one who loved a tree.

I may not have a statesman's poise,
Nor thrill a throng with speech,
But I may benefit mankind
If I set out a beech.

If I transplant a sapling oak
To rear it's mighty head
T'will shade and shelter those who come
Long after I am dead.

If in the park I plant an elm
Where children come to play
T'will make for them a childhood shrine,
That will not soon decay.

Or if I plant a tree with fruit,
On which the birds may feed,
Then I have fostered feathered friends
And that's a worthy deed.

For winter when the days grow short
and spirits may run low
I'd plant a pine upon the scape
T' would lend a cheery glow.

I'd like a tree to mark the spot
Where I am laid to rest
For that would be the epitaph
That I would like the best.

Tho it's not carved upon a stone
For those who come to see
But friends would know that resting there
Is he, who loved a tree.

—Samuel N. Baxter

AN ARBOR DAY TREE

(For four small children)

All: "Dear little tree that we plant today, what will you be when we're old and gray?"

First: "The savings bank of the squirrel and mouse, For the robin and wren an apartment house."

Second: "The dressing room of the butterfly's ball, The locust's and katydid's concert hall."

Third: "The school boy's ladder in pleasant June, The school girl's tent in the July noon."

Fourth: "And my leaves shall whisper right merrily. A tale of children who planted me."

—Author Unknown

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Follow-Up Fun

Under Cover

For an Arbor Day Ceremony follow-up activity in primary and intermediate grades, invite your youngsters to go under cover!

Objective

- Students will be able to describe three ways trees are important to wildlife.

You will need:
copies of *Under Cover* Sheets A and B
small, pointed scissors
crayons or markers
blank sheet of paper
pencils (optional)
tape
stapler

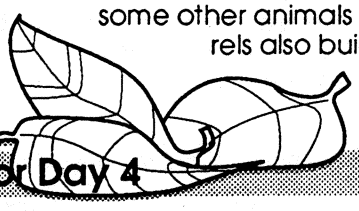
Here's a fun way for students to discover some of the many ways animals use trees. Pass out a copy of page A to each student and explain that all of the animals in the picture use trees or the areas around them for shelter, for food, or as a nesting site. Tell them they probably wouldn't find all of these animals on the same tree at the same time. That's because animals use trees for different things during different times of the year and they tend to spread themselves out among different trees so they'll have plenty of room.

As you discuss the animals in the picture you can use the information provided below. Afterward, pass out copies of page B and let each student make his or her own "peek-a-tree." Note: In the discussion below, the names of the animals that appear on pages A and B are in bold italics.

Hidden By The Leaves

A Place to Rest: Many birds use trees as resting spots. For example, the ***barred owl*** may rest in the branches of a tree during the day or may perch there at night to look and listen for mice and other prey.

Nesting High: A fork in a tree may be a perfect place for a ***rose-breasted grosbeak*** to build its nest. Many other birds and some other animals such as squirrels also build their nests in the branches of trees.



A Treetop Smorgasbord: The ***gray squirrel*** spends most of its time in the treetops and feeds on many different nuts, seeds, and fruits. A lot of other animals also feed in the treetops.

Blending In: Some animals are well camouflaged for their life in the trees. The ***walkingstick*** feeds on tree leaves during the day. Looking a lot like a small stick helps this insect hide from birds and other predators. Some other tree-dwelling insects resemble leaves, thorns, or bark.

Beneath The Bark

Growing Up Inside a Tree: Some animals spend most of their lives beneath the bark of trees. ***Bark beetles*** lay their eggs in wood underneath the bark. After the eggs hatch, the larvae form patterns in the wood as they eat their way through it.

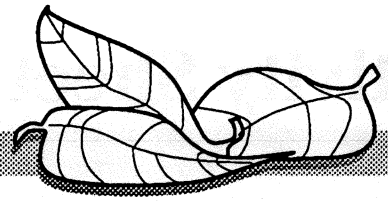
Nesting Within: Many animals nest inside trees. Birds such as the ***hairy woodpecker*** chisel out their own nesting holes in trees. These cavities may be used by many other forest creatures after the woodpeckers have abandoned them. ***Honey bees***, flying squirrels, and some birds may build their homes (hives or nests) in abandoned woodpecker nests or in other tree cavities.

Fruiting Fungi: Many types of ***fungi*** grow on trees. The threadlike ***mycelium*** of these fungi often grows beneath the bark, hidden from view. But when a fungus such as the ***shelf fungus*** produces its fruiting body, it's easy to spot.

Around The Roots

Feeding on the Roots: Many insects, mites, ***millipedes***, and pill bugs spend part of their lives in the ground. The ***cicada***, for example, spends its underground life as a nymph around the base of a tree, feeding on sap from the tree's roots. Some fungi form a "partnership" with the roots of trees. These fungi grow around the growing tips of the roots and feed on the tree's sap. The fungi aid the tree by absorbing nutrients from the soil and passing them into the tree.

Burrowing, Furrowing: ***Earthworms***, moles, and many other creatures tunnel through the soil beneath a tree. As they churn up the soil they make it easier for a tree's roots to grow and absorb oxygen. Some animals such as ***short-***



tailed shrews and chipmunks dig tunnels beneath trees. And animals such as ***chipmunks*** and squirrels may store a cache of nuts in the ground near the base of a tree.

How To Make A "Peek-A-Tree"

1. Color sheets A and B.

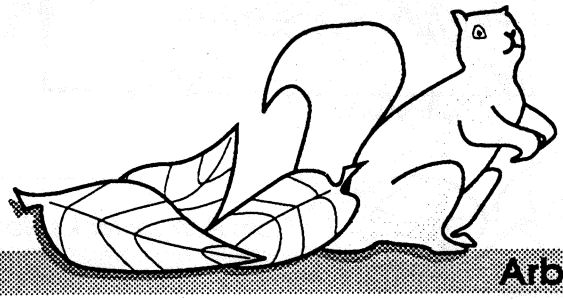
2. Using pointed scissors, cut the rectangles on sheet A on the dotted lines only. Then fold the cut pieces back along the solid lines. (The rectangles should work like little doors.) If you're having trouble getting started, push the point of a sharp pencil through one of the corners of each rectangle. Then stick the point of the scissors through the hole and begin cutting.

3. Make a tab for each door by cutting out a small piece of paper one inch long by 1/2 inch wide. Tape half of the piece of paper to the back of the door so that 1/2 inch hangs free and forms a tab. (Be sure to tape the piece of paper to the back of the door edge opposite the uncut side.) You can use the tabs to keep the doors closed by tucking them under the cut edges.

4. Put sheet A on top of sheet B and staple them together at the top and the bottom.

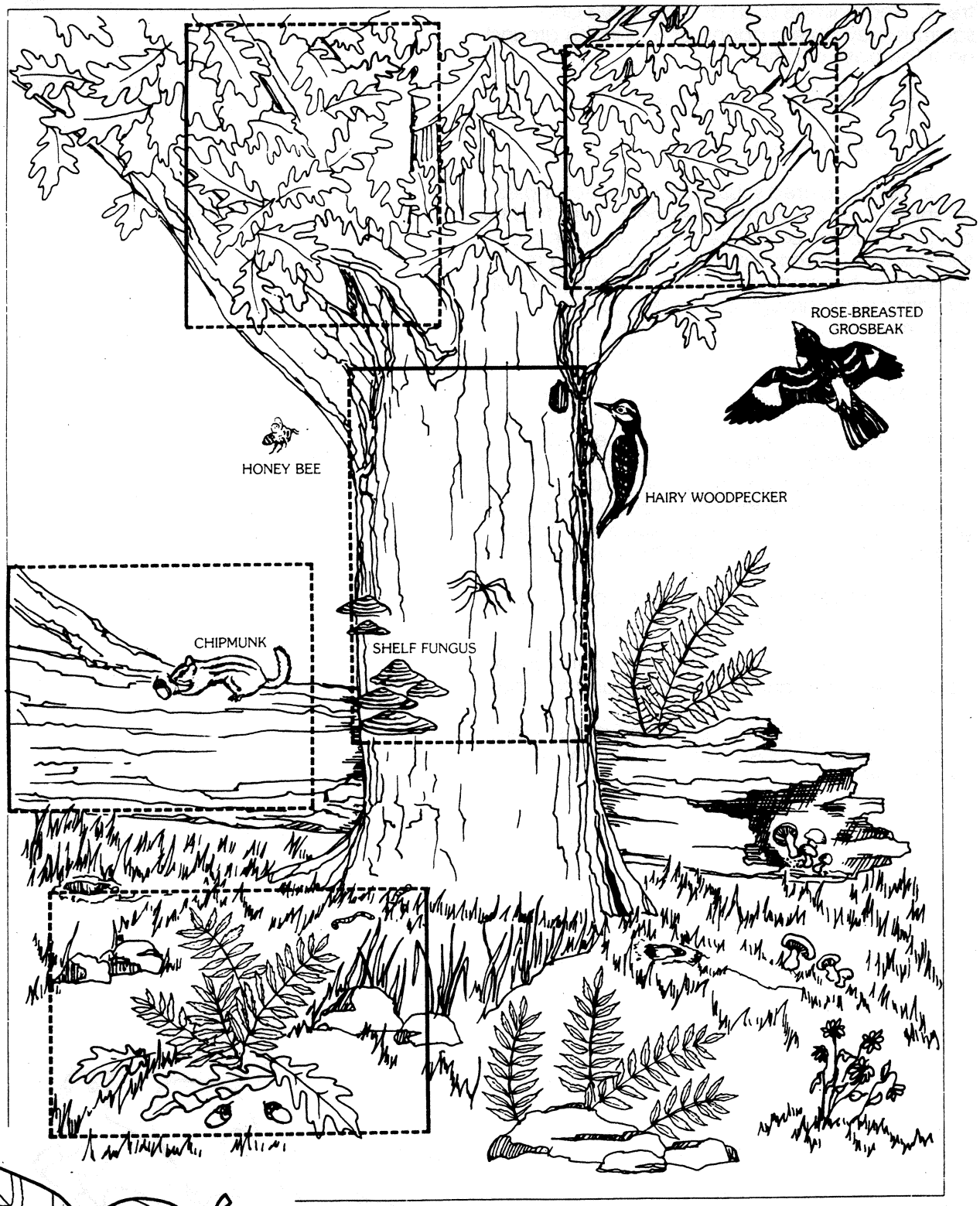
5. Then open the doors to see what is underneath the leaves and bark and around the roots!

Sheets A and B adapted from Ranger Rick's Naturescope "Trees Are Terrific." Used with permission.



Activity Sheet A Copycat Page

Under Cover!



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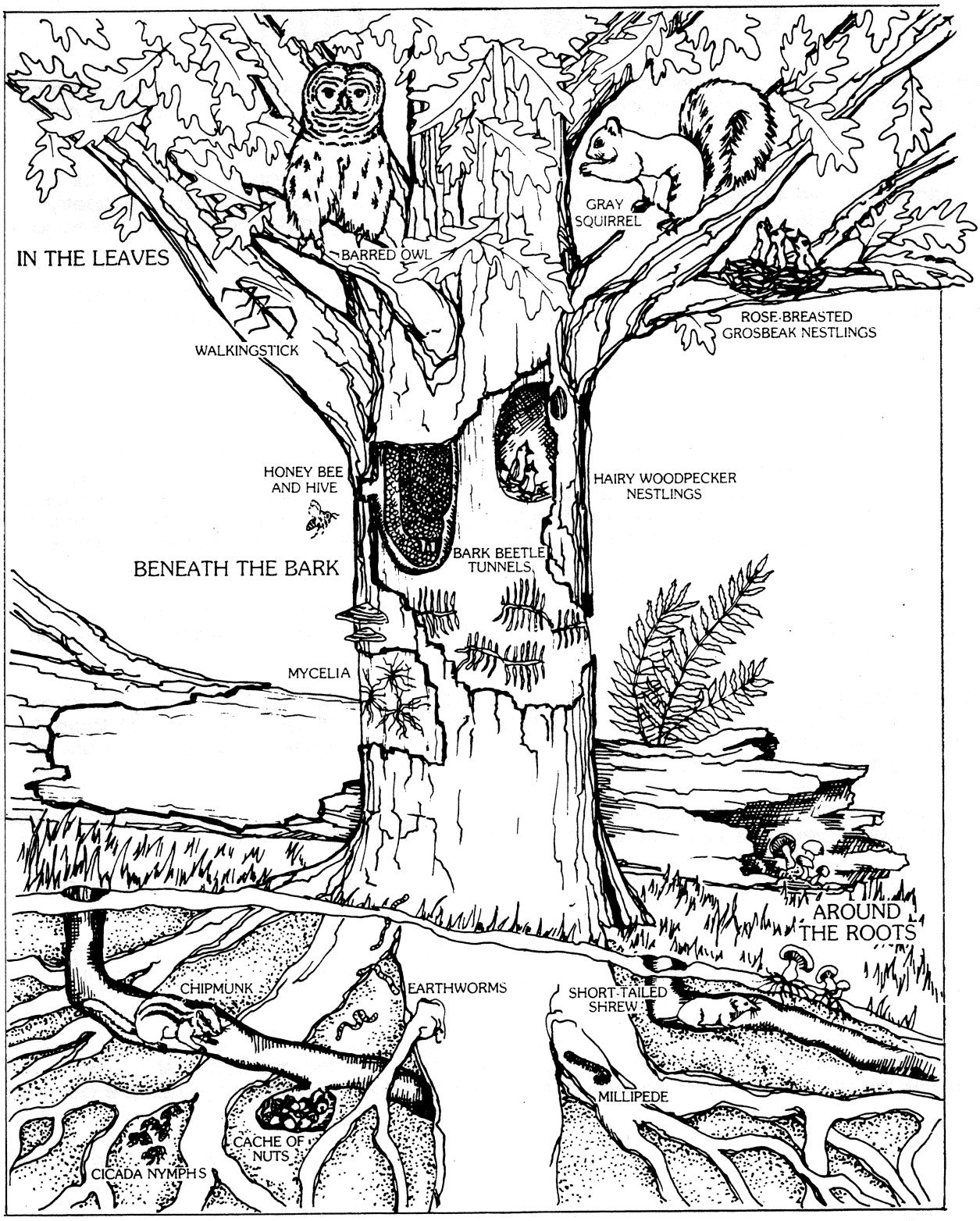
Activity Sheet B Copycat Page

Under Cover!



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Celebrate Arbor Day!

It has been more than 100 years since J. Sterling Morton founded Arbor Day. His simple idea of setting aside a special day for tree planting is now more important than ever . . . so have an Arbor Day celebration!

Raise the flag, strike up the band, make Arbor Day fun. Make it memorable. Organize a fun run. Make it a real event. See if a local business will donate prizes. Have a poster contest, or a poetry contest. Get the local PTA to sponsor a children's pageant or play. Organize and train volunteers to help you carry out Arbor Day ceremonies in your schools.

Get people excited. Show them things they've never seen before. Tell them things about trees they've never heard before. Let them know that without people there would be no trees in Utah's valleys. Tell them if you want trees in the valleys you must plant and care for them.

Fill the air with music. Have an Arbor Day concert of songs about trees, or with tree names in their titles.

Get people into action. Ask a civic or service group to promote a paper drive to gather paper to be recycled and save a tree. Use the proceeds to buy a special tree to plant in a park or other special public place. Ask a local radio station to sponsor a tree trvia contest and give away trees to winners. Conduct a tree search. Ask people to find large, unusual or historic trees in your community. Tell people to take a hike — a tree identification hike — and have girl scouts or boy scouts act as guides.

Dedicate a forest, or a tree, or a flower bed in a park, and make it an occasion to talk about stewardship. Get a local nursery or garden center to hold an open house or field day. Organize an Arbor Day Fair.

Get people together. Ask retirement homes to invite children to plant a tree on their grounds and give the residents a chance to tell the kids about Arbor Day when they themselves were children. See if neighborhood organizations will hold block parties and get their members to adopt and care for street trees in front of their homes. Pass out buttons. Give away trees.

Make Arbor Day a real holiday. Make it special, and make it an occasion to look forward to. Make it a day of wonderful memories, and fill it with the promise of newly planted trees.

Celebrate Arbor Day in a personal way by planting a tree yourself. It is an act of optimism and kindness, a labor of love and a commitment to stewardship.

Anyone can do it. Start a tree seed in a cup, or a seedling in a pot. If you have no place to set it out later, give it to someone who does, and then watch it grow together. Find a place to plant a seedling or a sapling or the largest tree you can handle alone.

Each and every tree that is planted stands as a living reminder that we all bear responsibilities of stewardship. We are living links in a chain of humanity stretching from the dimmest past into an unknown future. We can each help to make that future more certain by performing a simple act — by planting a tree.

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AN ARBOR DAY PLAY
"Trees – A Joy Forever"

by Virginia Ott and Sue Kneale

CHARACTERS

Statue of J. Sterling Morton
Boy
Girl
Sterling at the age of 15
Caroline at the age of 14
Caroline as a young mother
Sterling at the age of 40

Joy Morton
Paul Morton
Mark Morton sons of J. Sterling and Caroline Morton
Carl Morton
Man No. 1
Man No. 2 members of the Horticulture Society
Man No. 3

PROLOGUE

Time: April 22, the present. Arbor Day in Nebraska.
Setting: Arbor Lodge State Historical Park. A statue of a man on a pedestal stands in a clearing among the trees. An inscription on the pedestal reads, J. STERLING MORTON, 1832-1902, AUTHOR OF ARBOR DAY. A boy and a girl stand before the statue.

BOY:
"J. Sterling Morton, 1832-1902, Author of Arbor Day." Say, how can anyone be the writer of a day?

GIRL:
I don't know. Oh, look at the statue! It moved!

STATUE (stretching arms and legs):
What are you two children asking about? Arbor Day? I'm just the person to tell you all about that. Now you move back, I'm coming down. (J. Sterling Morton steps down with great dignity. He pulls a watch from his vest pocket and consults it.) That's better! I've been standing up there since 1905 when President Grover Cleveland himself dedicated this monument. Now, what was your question?

GIRL:
Mr. Morton, how could you be the author of Arbor Day?

BOY:
Yes, we thought Arbor Day was for planting trees. How can you **write** a holiday?

J. STERLING MORTON:
Well . . . let me see. It all began a long time ago. (He ushers the Boy and Girl to the side of the stage. Then all three turn and watch center stage.) You see, I was going to school in Albion, Michigan, when I met this girl named Caroline. That was in 1847. We were sitting there under a tree eating an apple . . .

SCENE 1

Time: 1847
Setting: A grassy spot under a large shade tree on the campus of Wesleyan Seminary in Albion, Michigan. Sterling, 15, and Caroline, 14, are sitting under the tree, each eating a large apple. J. Sterling Morton stands with the Boy and Girl watching the scene.

CAROLINE:
Let's count the seeds in our apple cores! Just for fun?

STERLING:
All right, but it's a silly superstition!

CAROLINE (breaking the core of her apple and putting the seeds in her hand):
Now. One, I love . . . Two, I love . . . Three, I love, I say. Four, I love with all my heart . . . And five, I cast away. (Caroline pauses.)

STERLING:
That can't be all. No apple from my father's orchard ever had just five seeds!

CAROLINE (smiles and continues counting):
Six, he loves . . . Seven, she loves . . . Eight, they both love. Nine, he comes . . . Ten, he tarries (She looks at Sterling.) That's all!

STERLING:
Now, that I don't like. Count mine!

CAROLINE (breaking the core of his apple):
One, I love . . . Two, I love . . . Three, I love, I say. Four, I love with all my heart . . . Five, I cast away. Six, she loves . . . Seven, he loves . . . Eight, they both love. Sterling, where are the rest?

STERLING:
There's no more! I'll take back what I said. This is a delightful old game.

CAROLINE:
Sterling, let's promise ourselves that someday we will have our own big apple orchard and that each apple will have just eight seeds!

(The scene dims.)

J. STERLING MORTON (from the side of the stage, wipes his eyes with a large white handerkerchief):
Well, this is what happened. We did tarry after all. It was seven years before we married. On our wedding day we left for Nebraska Territory to seek our fortune. And there Caroline got her wish. We built the house that would one day be called Arbor Lodge . . . we planted our orchard and thousands of other trees . . . we raised our four sons: Joy, Paul, Mark and Carl.

GIRL:
Did your boys plant trees, too?

BOY:
Is that when Arbor Day started?

J. STERLING MORTON (smiling):
Not yet, but let me tell you about Carl's orchard. Carl was our youngest son.

SCENE 2

Time: 1870
Setting: The yard of Arbor Lodge. In the background are trees, flowers and bushes. The three older Morton boys are playing catch in the yard. Caroline enters in a white apron worn over a calico dress. J. Sterling Morton and the Boy and Girl stand to the side of the stage, watching the scene.

CAROLINE:
Boys, come and wash for supper. Bring little Carl with you.

JOY:
Carl isn't with us, Mother. We haven't seen him.

CAROLINE:
What do you mean? Look for him, boys! (All call for Carl and begin searching for him. There is no answer.)

CAROLINE:
Oh, I do hope he is all right! Joy, run down to the creek and look all along the bank. Paul, look in the barn. Mark, look around the well in the orchard. I'll look back of the carriage house. I do wish your father were home! (Everyone scatters to look for Carl.)

J. STERLING MORTON:
Well, it was their mother who found Carl. Listen . . .

(Carl is found kneeling at the back of the stage. He is digging in the ground, setting out a seedling tree. First Caroline and then the older boys enter and gather around Carl.)

JOY:
Carl, why didn't you answer when Mother called?

MARK:
Yes, we looked all over for you!

PAUL:
What are you doing with those little tiny trees?

CARL:
I'mm setting out an orchard. See! (He looks at his mother innocently.) I was too busy to answer when you called. I'm sorry.

CAROLINE (smiles and pats Carl on the shoulders):
You've done a good job, Carl, and we hope every tree will grow. Boys, this orchard will be Carl's very own and he can care for it. It's time for supper now. (They begin to walk off the stage. Caroline pauses.) Your father can see our new orchard when he returns tomorrow. He will be very proud. (Caroline and her sons walk offstage together.)

J. STERLING MORTON:
Carl was only five years old when he planted his trees. He set out an apple seedling, a cottonwood twig and a tiny elm tree. They all lived for many years. In fact, there's a big cottonwood tree behind the new carriage house at Arbor Lodge. That might be the very one Carl planted way back in 1870.

BOY:
Mr. Morton, now can you tell us about Arbor Day?

GIRL:
Yes, Mr. Morton, just how were you the author of Arbor Day?

J. STERLING MORTON:
That happened not long after Carl planted his orchard. I wrote many articles about planting trees in Nebraska, especially fruit trees. So did other newspapermen. Many pioneers were coming to Nebraska every day. The new settlers missed the forests they had known back East. Some of us felt we needed a plan for encouraging tree planting in Nebraska. One day in 1872, I made a speech. Stand over here and listen to how it happened. (J. Sterling Morton and the Boy and Girl turn toward the center stage again.) This is a meeting of the Nebraska Horticulture Society. I was a rather handsome man back then . . .

SCENE 3

Time: 1872
Setting: A meeting of the Nebraska Horticulture Society in an office in Lincoln, Nebraska, the state capital. Three men are seated around a table. A 40-year-old J. Sterling Morton stands at the head of the table, a paper in his hands.

MAN NO. 1:
We all agree that Nebraska farmland is better than anyone had hoped, don't we? (Everyone nods in agreement and says, Yes.)

MAN NO. 2:
The settlers are discovering new crops to grow every year. Our Society has been a great help in spreading the news of the farmers' success.

STERLING:
Now we have to prove that trees can grow on our barren, rolling plains.

MAN NO. 3:
I think the idea we've been working on is a good one.

MAN NO. 1:
Sterling, did you write the resolution about planting trees? The State Board of Agriculture wants to make it official.

STERLING:
This is what I have written. (He reads from the paper in his hand.) ". . . the 10th day of April, 1872, shall be . . . set apart and consecrated for tree planting in the State of Nebraska, and the State Board of Agriculture hereby shall name it Arbor Day . . . and . . . hereby shall offer a special premium of one hundred dollars to the agricultural society of that county in Nebraska which shall, upon that day, plant properly the largest number of trees . . ."

MAN NO. 2:
I like that! Let's take it to the Agriculture Board today!

MAN NO. 3:
Sterling, you've written yourself a holiday! (The men all rise and follow Sterling offstage.)

J. STERLING MORTON (turning to the Boy and Girl):
And that's how it all began. You know, I ordered 800 trees to plant for that first Arbor Day, and they didn't arrive in time for the new holiday. In spite of that, over one million trees were planted in Nebraska that first Arbor Day. It was a real success!

BOY:
Now we know how you became the author of a holiday. You really did write it!

GIRL:
Our teacher told us that Arbor Day is now celebrated in every state. Doesn't that make you proud?

J. STERLING MORTON:
Indeed it does make me proud. As I've always said, trees are a joy forever. (He looks at his watch.) Now, I think you should help me back onto the pedestal. Others will be coming into the park soon. Good-bye for now and remember to tell everyone about Arbor Day! (He shakes hands with each young person. They help him step up on the pedestal, where he resumes his original pose. The Boy and Girl wave good-bye to the statue and walk off stage.)

THE END

PRODUCTION NOTES

Characters: 11 male, 3 female

Characters and Costumes:
Boy — wears school clothes, sweater or jacket
Girl — wears school clothes, sweater or jacket
J. Sterling Morton — wears a dark suit, a vest, visible gold watch and chain, holds a cane in his left hand and a hat in his right hand
Young Sterling — wears a suit, carries books
Young Caroline — wears a long dress and a ribbon in her hair
Caroline Morton — wears a long print dress and a white apron
Joy — wears dark pants and white cotton shirt
Paul — wears dark pants and light-colored shirt
Mark — wears dark pants and light-colored shirt
Carl — may wear shorter pants, just below thte knees, and white shirt
Sterling at 40 — wears a dark suit
The Three Men — wear dark suits

Setting: The setting can be very simple, suitable for an on-stage performance or the front of the classroom.

Prologue: a box covered with black paper and strong enough to be the pedestal on which J. Sterling Morton stands as a statue. On the front of the pedestal are the words:

J. STERLING MORTON
18832-1902
AUTHOR OF ARBOR DAY

A small tree limb is at his feet and a plow share is behind him on the pedestal.

Scene 1 — the actors may sit on the floor or a low bench. The shade tree may be painted on a set or imagined.

Scene 2 — Carl should have a small bucket, a small shovel and 3 small tree branches.

Scene 3 — small table and four chairs.

Final scene — same as for Prologue.

ARBOR DAY IDEAS FROM ALL ACROSS AMERICA

In **Cincinnati, Ohio,** children and other patrons visiting the city libraries during Arbor Week received a free black walnut seedling and planting instructions when they checked out a book from the special Arbor Week display. The Urban Forestry Board provided 5,000 seedlings, and the Federated Garden Clubs and Hamilton County Public Library designed the displays for all branches of the library.

Students at Jackson Elementary School in Salt Lake City, Utah petitioned the Utah State Legislature to create an annual $10,000 "Leaf-It-To-Us" school tree planting fund in which other schools may apply for $500 grants through the State Forester's Office to plant trees on their school grounds or other public lands near their schools.

An Arbor Day concert of Tree Music was a tremendous success in **Santa Cruz, California.** Selections included: Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag," "Weeping Willow Rag," and "Palm Leaf Rag;" "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer and Oscar Rasbach; "Arborations on Trees" by Gene Lewis; Bob Cole and Rosamund Johnson's "Under the Bamboo Tree;" "Der Nussbaum" (The Nut Tree) by Robert Schumann; "Der Lindenbaum" (The Linden Tree) by Franz Schubert; "Woodman, Spare That Tree," by Henry Russell and George P. Morris; and several traditional melodies including "To Ope Their Trunks," "Willow Song," "Oak and Ash," "Ash Grove," and "Birch Tree."

In **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**, students dressed in historical costumes to commemorate and reenact the first Arbor Day during their community observance.

Third graders in **Pauls Valley, Oklahoma,** used $25 they won in the Jackson School Science Fair to celebrate Arbor Week. Foregoing treats for themselves, they voted to invest their money in their community by buying and planting a tree. After carefully studying many species, they chose a Pin Oak as one that would benefit the most children, and planted it in their school play area.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, dedicated its fitness trail in conjunction with Arbor Day. Four hundred elementary students, YMCA members and members of a senior leisure club and a running club planted trees along the trail in a city park.

Arbor Day was the occasion for planting trees to screen an unsightly grocery on the main street in **Wolfeboro, New Hampshire.** With a contribution from the grocery's owner and labor from a local garden club, the community's volunteer tree warden coordinated the day-long activities, which resulted in attractive landscaping to screen the store.

In **Great Bend, Kansas,** residents could register to win a free containerized tree from the Tree Board. Winners were drawn on Arbor Day and Boy Scouts planted Redbuds, Flowering Crabs or Bradford pears in the yards of the 20 winners.

In **Sioux Falls, South Dakota,** selection of Miss Arbor Day is a highlight of their celebration. Miss Arbor Day visits local businesses to give away trees during the day.

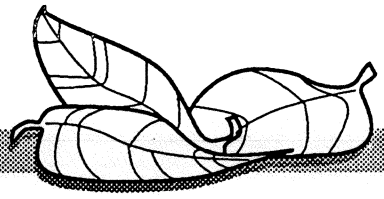
The City of **Ellensburg, Washington**, chose Arbor Week to announce the winner of its months-long search for an official flower. Contestants ranging from schoolchildren to civic groups entered illustrations and a rationale for selection. The winning marigold was chosen for its popularity and suitability to central Washington. The winner and runners-up received small cash prizes from the Beautification Commission.

In **Weatherford, Texas,** the Artistic Garden Club conducts its own Adopt-A-Tree program. Residents take seedlings home and grown them for a year, then return them for planting in the city's park when the trees have reached a more viable size.

The Toledo Department of Natural Resources and the Toledo Hospital and Neighborhood Improvement Foundation sponsored a litter rally in Ottawa Park in **Toledo, Ohio.** The event involved 524 grade school kids and netted 1,133 pounds of litter in just 45 minutes. The winning class accumulated 144 pounds of litter and received a red oak tree to plant on their school campus.

It was good morning magic on Good Morning Rochester. Ten fourth graders from Bamber Valley Elementary School in **Rochester, Minnesota,** taped a special Arbor Day segment for Richester Instructional Television System. The segment, in talk-show format, featured students portraying the governors of Minneosta, Florida, and Nebraska, the first ladies of the states of Hawaii and California, the first ladies of the cities of Duluth and Rochester, and a great grandson of J. Sterling Morton. The program taught kids about the history, importance, and understanding of Arbor Day.

An Arbor Day celebration in **Portland, Oregon,** featured a Chinese theme. A Chinese dogwood and Chinese Yulan tree were provided by a Chinese service club and a garden club, and they were planted during a celebration which inluded a performance of the traditional Chinese Lion Dance and the Duckling Dance by a Chinese Cultural Dance Group. Chinese calligraphy and



art adorned the bright pink Arbor Day program.

Citizens in **Madison, Wisconsin,** can sign a Tree Care pledgecard on Arbor Day in which they promise to care of the young trees planted on the holiday.

"Run for Shade" is an important part of the annual Arbor Day celebation in **Davenport, Iowa.** The annual race raises funds to plant trees in the city's nurseries. A 1/2-mile Media Celebrity Challenge Race boosted local media coverage of the event and heightened awareness of the city's Arbor Day celebration.

In **Nebraska City, Nebraska,** Northside Elementary students each adopted a tree in a conservation windbreak planted on their playground. Teachers use the National Arbor Day Foundation's "Grow Your Own Tree" multi-media instructional kit to involve the students in educational activities extolling the value of trees, tree care and tree growth. Each student signed a Tree Care Card promising to care for and maintain their tree. The cards were buried in time capsules as the windbreak was planted.

After a tornado destroyed more than 800 trees in **Cardington, Ohio,** citizens organized a tree restoration committee which solicited donations and memorials. Volunteers who learned of the tree planting through local newspaper articles appeared on Arbor Day to wrap trunks, water, mulch and stake 40 large trees which were planted along major streets.

An Arbor Day media blitz in **Huntington, Indiana,** resulted in planting of 4,500 trees. Radio station WBDC gave the state tree, a Tulip Poplar, to area third, fourth, and fifth grade students "in hopes that they might share in a family experience of tree planting." Schools participated by holding special classes and programs on Arbor Day.

Students from Beth El Religious School in **Scottsdale, Arizona,** planted tiny olive trees in a new city park, in a ceremony modeled after annual plantings in Israel.

Atlanta fifth graders planted 1,000 conservation trees as part of a program sponsored by the Outdoor Activity Center of **Atlanta, Georgia.** The trees were planted to help control soil erosion and to beautify the Harwell Heights Park. The park was chosen for the special planting because it had a barren hillside which was created when a new ball park was built. The hillside was very steep and volunteers helped the children rappel down the hill on ropes to plant the trees. Each of the kids received an educational packet which inluded a special "fun page," and an Arbor Day ceremony was held to celebrate their accomplishment.

America's oldest Japanese elm received special attention from arboriculture students at the University of Massachusetts at **Amherst, Massachusetts.** The Arboriculture and Park Management Club celebrated Arbor Day by pruning and mulching the venerable old tree.

To help locate **New York City's** heritage trees, the City Department of Parks and Recreation conducted a program called the "Great Tree Search." New Yorkers looked for trees of unusual size and age, those linked with notable people or historical events, trees associated with historic landmarks, and trees of unusual species or location. On Arbor Day they held a big party to celebrate New York City's Great Trees.

In **Windsor, Colorado,** a Junior Tree Board made up of card-carrying student members helps to plan the city's Arbor Day activities in conjunction with the statutory tree board.

Each year the folks of Woodburn, Oregon, Fix-up, Shape-Up, and Clean-up to celebrate Arbor Day. The two week-long event stresses building personal and civic pride through good health, and home and community beautification. Fix-Up, Shape-Up, Clean-Up activities include workshops about health and fitness, home improvement, landscaping and horticulture. Local service groups and scout organizations help with community-wide clean-up in parks and public areas.

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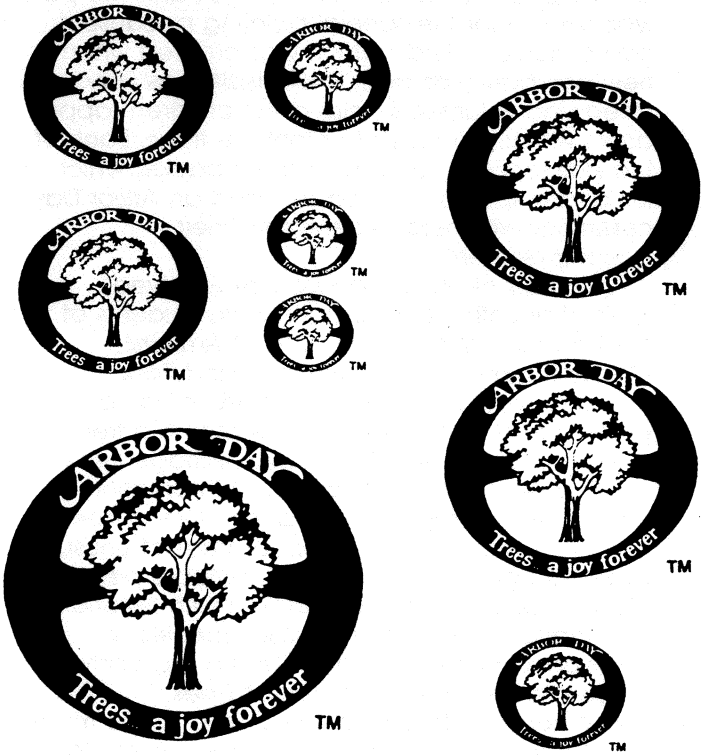


ARBOR DAY DATES

National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April.

Many states observe Arbor Day on different dates according to their best tree-planting times.

Alabama — Last full week in February

Alaska — Third Monday in May

Arizona — Friday following April 1 (Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave and Yavapai counties); Friday following February 1 (all other counties)

Arkansas — Third Monday in March

California — March 7-14

Colorado — Third Friday in April

Connecticut — April 30

Delaware — Last Friday in April

District of Columbia — Last Friday in April

Florida — Third Friday in January

Guam — First Friday in November

Georgia — Third Friday in February

Hawaii — First Friday in November

Idaho — Last Friday in April

Illinois — Last Friday in April

Indiana — Second Friday in April

Iowa — Last Friday in April

Kansas — Last Friday in March

Kentucky — First Friday in April

Louisiana — Third Friday in January

Maine — Third full week in May

Maryland — First Wednesday in April

Massachusetts — April 28-May 5

Michigan — Third full week in April

Minnesota — Last Friday in April

Mississippi — Second Friday in February

Missouri — First Friday after the first Tuesday in April

Montana — Last Friday in April

Nebraska — Last Friday in April

Nevada — Southern — February 28; Northern — April 23

New Hampshire — Last Friday in April

New Jersey — Last Friday in April

New Mexico — Second Friday in March

New York — Last Friday in April

North Carolina — First Friday following March 15

North Dakota — First Friday in May

Ohio — Last Friday in April

Oklahoma — Last full week in March

Oregon — First full week in April

Pennsylvania — Last Friday in April

Rhode Island — Last Friday in April

South Carolina — First Friday in December

South Dakota — Last Friday in April

Tennessee — First Friday in March

Texas — Third Friday in January

Utah — Last Friday in April

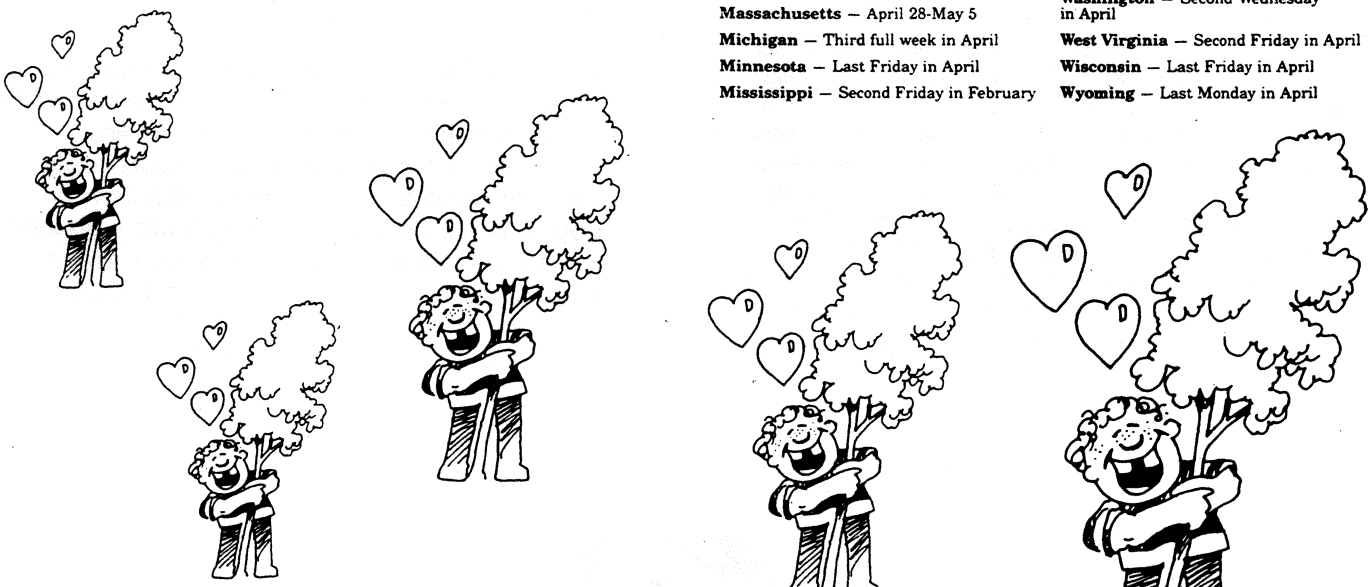
Vermont — First Friday in May

Virginia — Second Friday in March

Virgin Islands — Last Friday in September

Washington — Second Wednesday in April

West Virginia — Second Friday in April

Wisconsin — Last Friday in April

Wyoming — Last Monday in April