

Bark Match

GENERAL INFORMATION

OBJECTIVES

Students will use their sense of touch to match bark samples with live trees.

QUESTIONS

What are the five senses? How do our senses help us in our daily lives?

VOCABULARY

Senses, hearing, sight, smell, taste, touch, trees, bark

ACTIVITY MATERIALS

Bark samples, live trees, hand lenses, crayons, paper

METHODS

INTRODUCTION

Gather samples of several different types of bark from different tree species. Make sure that each bark type comes from a tree that the students can find during the second part of the activity. Gather your students in a group and have them find a partner. Discuss the function of tree bark. Pass out the bark samples to each team and give them a minute or so to examine their sample using sight, touch, and smell. Have each of them describe their bark using as many adjectives and comparisons as possible.

ACTIVITY

Bring the students to the area where their tree can be found and see if they can match their bark with the intact bark of a live tree.

DISCUSSION

Review how the students found their bark using their different senses. Ask: **Which one helped them the most in this case? What animals might interact with tree bark, such as insects living underneath it, woodpeckers searching for food, etc.?**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Activity adapted by Allison Mains, January 2007 from Project Learning Tree: Environmental Education Pre K-8 Activity Guide, 2001, American Forest Foundation, "Get in Touch with Trees", Activity 2, pp. 5-6.

Teacher's Corner

Grade Level(s)

Pre K – K

Time

15 minutes

Grade Level Expectations

GLE 0007.Inq.1: Observe the world of familiar objects using the senses and tools.

GLE 0007.2.2: Know that people interact with their environment through their senses.