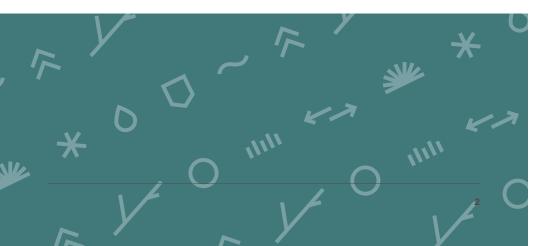
# SHADE TREE JOURNAL

#### Name:

Surrey Parks



We acknowledge that we live, learn and play on the shared traditional territories of the Kwantlen, Katzie, Semiahmoo, and other Coast Salish Peoples. We recognize them as stewards of this land since time immemorial.



### SHADE TREES & THE URBAN FOREST

Shade trees are an important part of Surrey's urban forest. Get to know them better, and find out how they make our city better.

#### **Urban forest**

All of the trees and other plants in parks, along streets, in front- and backyards, and other spaces within a city or town – the forest in a city.

#### Shade tree

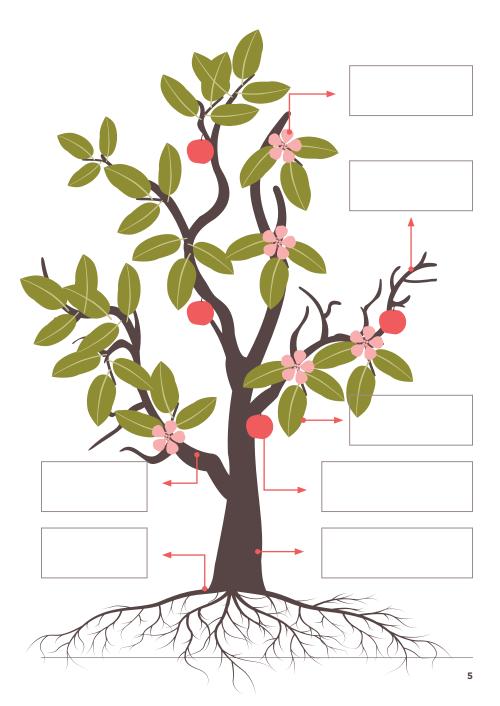
A tree that grows in open spaces of parks, along streets, in schoolyards or in front and backyards.

### ALL ABOUT TREES

What do I already know about trees?

What do I want to know about trees?

# **PARTS OF A TREE**



### **GET TO KNOW A SHADE TREE**

#### Choose a shade tree to study.

My tree is shaped like...



My tree is special because...

| Far away          | Up close       |
|-------------------|----------------|
|                   |                |
|                   |                |
|                   |                |
| A bird's eye view | A mouse's view |



|                   | My tree looks like                | Things I wonder about my tree: |  |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
|                   |                                   | 1                              |  |
| ۲M)               | My tree feels like                |                                |  |
| Ŭ                 |                                   | 2.                             |  |
| $\land$           |                                   |                                |  |
| $\langle \rangle$ | My tree smells like               | 3.                             |  |
|                   |                                   | -                              |  |
| Ŋ                 | When I stand near my tree, I hear |                                |  |



Be an explorer! Imagine you're the first person to discover your tree. Focus on one thing at a time. Notice details, look for patterns, draw and record what you find.



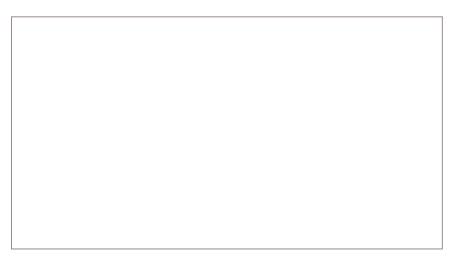
Share your wonders with a friend!

### **ABOUT MY TREE**

| My tree's bark: |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Looks           |  |  |
|                 |  |  |
|                 |  |  |
|                 |  |  |
| Feels           |  |  |
|                 |  |  |
|                 |  |  |
|                 |  |  |
| Reminds me of   |  |  |

Visit your tree throughout the seasons to see how it changes. Depending on the season, you may not see your tree's flowers, fruit or seeds.

My tree's flowers...



#### Circle the type of seeds your tree has:

| fruit  | pods               |
|--------|--------------------|
| cones  | "helicopter" seeds |
| nuts   | other              |
| acorns |                    |



Take a closer look at a tree's cone or pods to find seeds hiding inside.

# **A CLOSER LOOK AT LEAVES**

Leaves come in many shapes and sizes, from tiny needles or scales to large, wide leaves.

Draw a picture of your tree's leaves (even if it doesn't fit on the page).



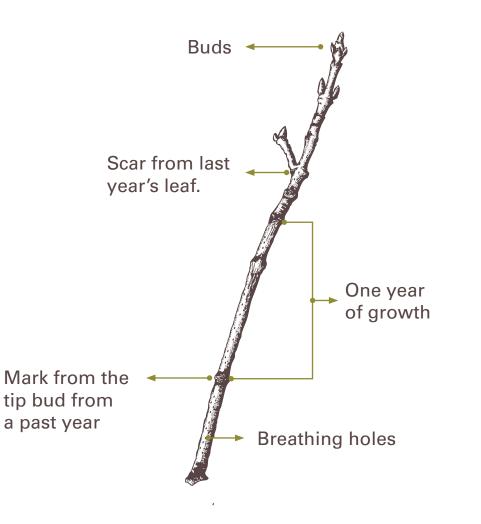
Use a magnifying glass to see tiny details up close!

Include as many details as you can: size, shape, colour(s), stem, veins, holes or missing pieces, other details

# **A CLOSER LOOK AT TWIGS**

### Twigs can give us clues about trees.

Look at a twig up close.



Is my twig straight or curved? Does my twig have buds? \_\_\_\_\_ Does my twig have thorns? Do my twig's branches grow opposite, alternate, or whorled? opposite alternate whorled Draw your twig – include details! Add your own labels.

## **MEASURE YOUR TREE'S TRUNK**

# The distance around a circle is called the circumference.

Follow these steps to find the circumference of your shade tree.

- 1. With a partner, wrap a piece of string around your tree's trunk. Make sure the string is at chest height and level all the way around.
- 2. While your partner holds the string, carefully cut it (or mark it) where it meets the other end.
- 3. Measure the length of your string. This is your tree's circumference (the length all the way around the trunk).

My tree's circumference is \_\_\_\_\_ cm.

### Compare to another tree. My tree's circumference is:

- □ shorter
- □ longer
- $\Box$  about the same



### **SHADE TREES AND ANIMALS**

Plants and animals rely on each other. These relationships are important for their health, survival, and well-being.

What animals might find food or shelter here? Remember to include bugs – they're animals too!

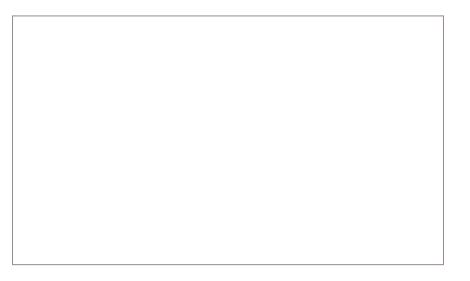
What clues have animals left behind?

\*

Think about how trees and animals live together. How do animals help trees? How do trees help animals?

If I were a bird, would I build my nest in this tree? Why or why not?

Imagine all the animals that have lived in or visited this tree. Draw your tree showing animals and their homes.



### **POET-TREE**

### Trees and nature can inspire us!

Write a poem about your tree.

### **A TREE SONG**

Try singing this song to the tune of "Row, row, row your boat" to get to know some of our local trees.

> Know, know, know your trees by the way they grow!

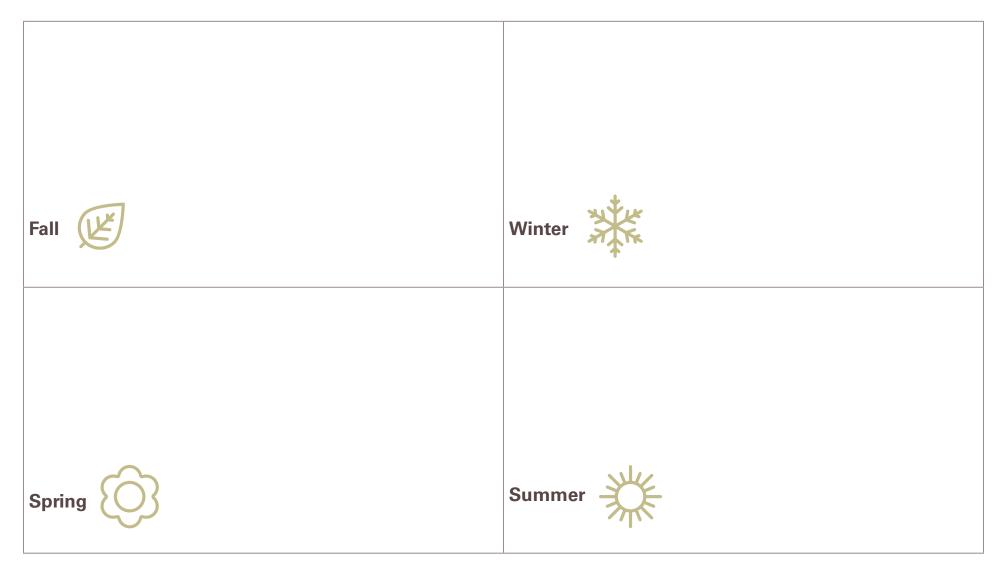
Douglas, hemlock, maple, cedar, and alder down below.

Add actions to go along with each tree:

- 1. standing tall and straight like a Douglas-fir
- 2. leaning at the top like a Western hemlock
- 3. stretching arms out with fingers spread like the leaves of a bigleaf maple
- 4. making J-shaped arms like a Western redcedar's branches
- 5. crouching like a young red alder growing beneath other trees

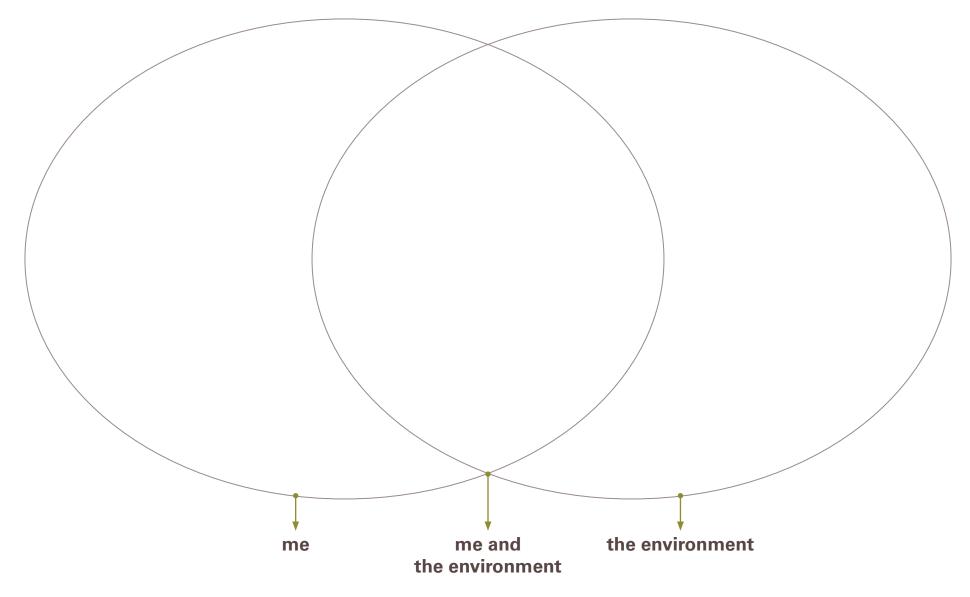
### **TREES THROUGH THE SEASONS**

How does my shade tree change throughout the year?



### **BENEFITS OF SHADE TREES**

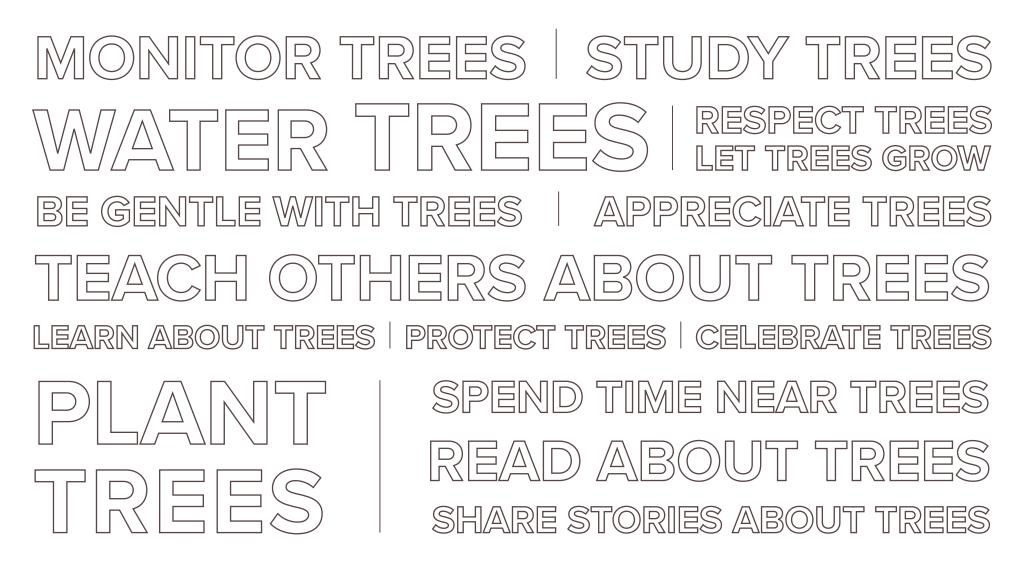
How do shade trees help?





### How can we help trees?

I will \_\_\_\_\_\_ to show I care for trees.





surrey.ca/schoolprograms