Unit 02: Trees

Content Area: **English Language Arts**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **5 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Brief Summary of Unit

In this study, children will expand their knowledge of trees through a variety of hands-on experiences that support all areas of their learning and development. They will develop an understanding of the characteristics of different kinds of trees, how trees grow and change, and why trees are important to people and the environment. They will also investigate people from the community who work with trees. Skills in Literacy, Math, Social-Emotional, Science, Social Studies, Technology and the Arts are embedded throughout the unit.

Essential Questions

What do we know about trees?

What do we want to find out?

What are the parts of trees?

How do trees grow and change?

What grows and lives in trees?

What things are made from trees?

Enduring Understandings

The definition of a tree

Trees grow in different places

Nonfiction books help us learn

Trees have different lengths

Trees and leaves have different parts

Students Will Know

The attributes of a tree

There are different parts of a tree

There are different types of trees

They can read nonfiction books about trees

How to measure length

There are different parts of a leaf

Students Will Be Skilled At

Describing a tree

Identifying trees when walking outside

Identifying places one can find trees

Identifying the parts of a tree

Using yarn to compare lengths

Identifying parts of a leaf

Evidence/Performance Tasks

This course is designed to promote skill attainment. Student progression and pace through which they proceed through the performance tasks is based on their affinity for and ability to reach skill attainment. The teacher will determine formative and summative skill attainment; alternative assessments will be incorporated for each student based on their strengths and challenges.

- Student Observation
- Monitor student responses

Learning Plan

Exploring the Topic- What do we know about trees? What do we want to find out?

- Compete Exploring the Topic Days 1-4
- Activities
    - The trees we see
    - Walk around the school to find trees
    - Places trees grow
    - What do we want to find out about trees?
- Choice time
    - Art- tree collage
    - Discovery- observational drawings
    - Discover- sort photos of trees
    - Library- nonfiction books
- Read Alouds
    - Retell
    - Recall letters seen in the book
    - Identify rhyming words
- Small Group
    - Same Sound Sort
    - We're Going on an Adventure
    - Textured Letters
    - Straw Shapes

Investigation 1- What are the parts of trees?

- Compete Investigation 1 Days 1-5
- Activities
    - What are the parts of trees
    - Tree trunks
    - Roots and branches

    - Leaves
    - Making our class tree
- Choice time
    - Toys and Games- tree puzzles
    - Art- measure trunks
    - Art- build model tree
    - Discovery- examine leaves
    - Art- create a tree
- Read Alouds
    - Predictions
    - Use pictures to understand the story
    - Make connections
    - Use words to describe what is seen in the pictures
    - Retell
    - Learn new vocabulary words
- Small Group
    - Question Basket
    - Seek & Find
    - More or Fewer Towers
    - The Long and Short of It
    - Stick Letters

Investigation 2- How do trees grow and change?

- Compete Investigation 2 Days 1-3
- Activities
    - Tree Life Cycle
    - What do trees need to grow?
    - Gardner exploration

- Choice time
    - Discovery - sequence tree’ life cycle
    - Art - teaching card
    - Discovery - examine gardening tools
- Read Alouds
    - Learn new vocabulary words
    - Retell
    - Use pictures to understand the story
    - Comparing
- Small Group
    - Bigger than, smaller than, equal to
    - Memory Games
    - Dice Groups

Investigation 3- What grows and lives in trees?

- Compete Investigation 3 Days 1-3
- Activities
    - Birds live in trees
    - Other animals that live in trees
    - Food grows on trees
- Choice time
    - Art- make a birds nest
    - Art - continue making a birds nest
    - Cooking - foods that grow on trees
- Read Alouds
    - Prediction
    - Retell
    - Act out action words

    - Recall
- Small Group
    - Making a Birdfeeder
    - Will you read to me?
    - Applesauce

Investigation 4- What things are made from trees?

- Compete Investigation 4 Days 1-3
- Activities
    - Things made of wood
    - Who makes things from wood
    - Woodworking tools
- Choice time
    - All Areas -what items are made of wood
    - Discovery - examine woodworking tools
    - Discovery - use the tools on wood
- Read Alouds
    - Use background information
    - Retell
    - Use pictures to understand the story
- Small Group
    - More or Fewer Towers
    - Straw Shapes
    - Same Sound Sort

Materials

Materials frequently used:

- Chart paper
- Writing utensils (pencils, crayons)
- Paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Tape
- Magnifying glasses
- Camera
- Collection of photos of trees in your surrounding area
- Books that feature a variety of trees
- Books that feature animals that live in trees

Exploring the Topic:

- Mighty Minutes
    - 207, “Welcome, Friends!” (with accompanying poster)
    - 296, “Stack & Measure”
    - 208, “Color Clothes”
    - 230, “Syllables on the Move!”
    - 260, “Letter-Sound Trouble”
    - 239, “Musical Patterns”
    - 210, “Collecting Questions”
    - 300, “Letter Clues”
- Books:
    - Chicka Chicka Boom Boom
    - Pablo’s Tree
- Intentional Teaching Experience
    - LL12, “Same Sound Sort”
    - M36, “We’re Going on an Adventure”

    - LL15 “Textured Letters”
    - M42, “Straw Shapes”
- Printed photos or magazines featuring different types of trees
- Photos of trees in different places (e.g. forest, desert, nursery)

Investigation 1:

- Mighty Minutes
    - 203, “Listen to the Letter Sounds”
    - 255, “Kittens and Mittens”
    - 271, “Benny Bear”
    - 237, “Rainbow Song”
    - 274, “What’d you say?”
    - 294, “Count the Syllables”
    - 224, “Five Big Leaves”
    - 241, “Rhyme Game”
    - 218, “Little Bunnies”
    - 251, “Favorite Treats”
- Books:
    - Our Tree Named Steve
    - Pablo’s Tree
    - A Grand Old Tree
    - Poetry book
- Intentional Teaching Experience:
    - LL59, “Question Basket”
    - M03 “Seek & Find”
    - M59 “More or Fewer Towers”
    - M25, “The Long and Short of It”
    - LL28 “Stick Letters”

- Card stock
- Printed photos of trees cut into four- or five-piece puzzles
- yarn
- Craft sticks
- Pipe cleaners
- Butcher paper
- Cardboard
- Cardboard tube rolls
- Construction paper
- Intentional Teaching E

Investigation 2:

- Mighty Minutes
    - 264, “Change the Name Game”
    - 257, “From Caterpillar to Butterfly”
    - 284, “Veggie Stew”
    - 248, “A Tree for All Seasons”
    - 225, “A Seed in Need”
    - 276, “Robby Robot”
- Books
    - Growing Trees
    - The Mitten (Book Discussion Card 14)
- Intentional Teaching Experience
    - M09 “Bigger Than, Smaller Than, Equal To
    - LL08, “Memory Games”
    - M94 “Dice Groups”
- Photos of trees in different stages of their life cycle (e.g. seed, seedling, sapling, tree)
- Tree care cards

Investigation 3:

- Mighty Minutes
    - 286, “Simon the Snake”
    - 240, “Five Little Birds”
    - 212, “Words that Rhyme!”
    - 223, “Eye on the Sky”
    - 270, “Bowl of Ice Cream”
    - 254, “Playful Petals”
- Books:
    - Who Lives in Trees?
    - A Grand Old Tree
- Intentional Teaching Experience
    - LL73, “Making a Birdfeeder
    - LL64, “Will You Read to Me?”
    - M28, “Applesauce”
- Materials to create a bird’s nest (e.g. grass, twigs, straw)
- Two plastic hoops
- Index cards
- Photos of different animals that live in trees (e.g. monkey, bird, squirrel) and animals that do not live in trees (e.g. whale, penguin, deer)
- Basket or container
- Variety of foods that grow on trees that children can explore, such as apples, oranges, lemons, peaches, avocado, mango, and cherries
- Real or pretend fruits that grow on trees that children can sort, along with photos of those same fruits growing on trees

Investigation 4:

- Mighty Minutes
    - 236, “Imaginary Bag”

    - 262, “What Comes Next?”
    - 299, “Pop, Pop, Pop”
    - 280, “Stoplight Dance”
    - 258, “Let’s Build a House!”
    - 245, “Shape Match”
- Books:
    - The Mitten (Book Discussion Card 14)
    - Who Lives in Trees? (Who Lives in Trees chart)
    - Counting book
- Intentional Teaching Experience
    - M59, “More or Fewer Towers”
    - M42, “Straw Shapes”
    - LL12, “Same Sound Sort”
- Tree branch that is bendable and does not break
- Woodworking tools, such as hammers, nails, sandpaper, clamps
- Clothespins
- Scraps of wood
- Paint
- Paintbrushes
- Safety goggles
- Safety gloves
- Non Toxic wood glue

Standards

Social & Emotional Development

- 0.1.1 (0.1.P.A.1)

- 0.1.2 (0.1.P.A.2)
- 0.1.3 (0.1.P.A.3)
- 0.1.4 (0.1.P.A.4)
- 0.2.4 (0.2.P.A.1)
- 0.4.1 (0.4.P.A.1)
- 0.4.4 (0.4.P.A.4)
- 0.4.5 (0.4.P.A.5)
- 0.5.1 (0.5.P.A.1)

Visual and Performing Arts

- 1.3.1 (1.3.P.C.1)
- 1.3.2 (1.3.P.C.2)
- 1.3.4 (1.3.P.C.4)
- 1.4.1 (1.3.P.D.1)
- 1.4.3 (1.3.P.D.3)
- 1.4.4 (1.3.P.D.4)
- 1.4.5 (1.3.P.D.5)

Health, Safety & Physical Education

- 2.2.1 (2.1.P.B.1)
- 2.4.1 (2.5.P.A.1)
- 2.4.2 (2.5.P.A.2)

English Language Arts

- RL.PK.1
- RL.PK.2
- RL.PK.3
- RL.PK.4
- RL.PK.7
- RL.PK.9

- RL.PK.10
- RI.PK.1
- RI.PK.2
- RI.PK.4
- RI.PK.10
- RF.PK.1.d
- RF.PK.2.c
- W.PK.2
- W.PK.5
- W.PK.7
- W.PK.8
- SL.PK.1.a
- SL.PK.1.b
- SL.PK.2
- SL.PK.6
- L.PK.1.b
- L.PK.1.d
- L.PK.1.f
- L.PK.1.g
- L.PK.4.a
- L.PK.5.a
- L.PK.6

Approaches to Learning

- 9.1.2
- 9.1.3
- 9.1.4
- 9.1.5

- 9.2.3
- 9.3.3
- 9.3.4
- 9.4.1
- 9.4.2

Mathematics

- 4.1.1 (K.CC.1)
- 4.1.4 (K.CC.4)
- 4.1.5 (K.CC.5)
- 4.1.6 (K.CC.6)
- 4.3.1 (K.MD.3)
- 4.3.2 (K.MD.1)
- 4.4.2 (K.G.2)
- 4.4.3 (K.G.4)

Science

- 5.1.1 (5.1.P.A.1)
- 5.1.2 (5.1.P.B.1)
- 5.1.3 (5.1.P.B.2)
- 5.1.4 (5.1.P.C.1)
- 5.1.5 (5.1.P.D.1)
- 5.2.1 (5.2.P.A.1)
- 5.3.1 (5.3.P.A.1)
- 5.3.3 (5.3.P.C.1)
- 5.3.4 (5.3.P.D.1)

World Languages

- 7.1.1 (7.1.P.A.1)
- 7.1.2 (7.1.P.A.2)

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

This link includes content specific accommodations and modification for all populations:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fmQ5llgX1HZdIPa7duX33pfmonGDoVFag9eE2DpbLfM/edit?usp=sharing