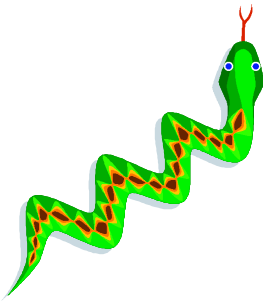
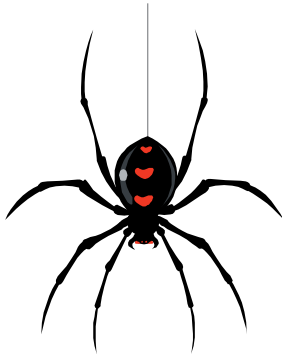
Tree Houses

Living In a Tree





Lots of wildlife lives in trees!

- Trees are really tree houses for all sorts of animals, birds, insects and other living things.
- Birds and squirrels make nests in trees.
- Insects live in the bark.
- Some frogs and snakes use trees to travel and shelter.
- Lots of animals eat the fruits and nuts and leaves of trees.

What are all the things that can live in a tree?

(touching head wondering)

A squirrel and a bat and a bird I see.

(hands by eyes like binoculars)

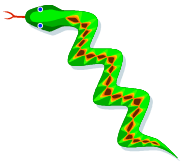
A snake and a spider and a butterfly—

(flapping wings)

Some down low and some up high!

(reaching to floor and then over head)

Living In a Tree Teaching Cues

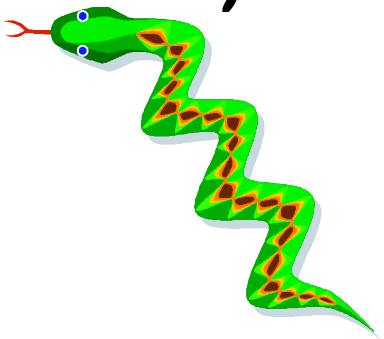
- Squirrel—swish tail
- Bat—arms in an M shape
- Bird—flap wings
- Spider—hook thumbs and wiggle fingers
- Butterfly—wave arms
- Snake—wiggle one arms 

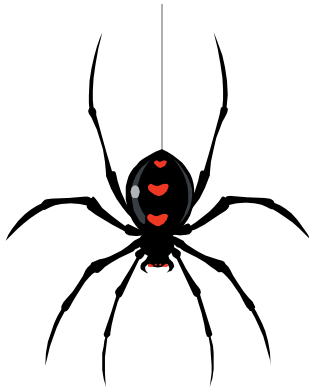
Toddler Tall Oak Tree

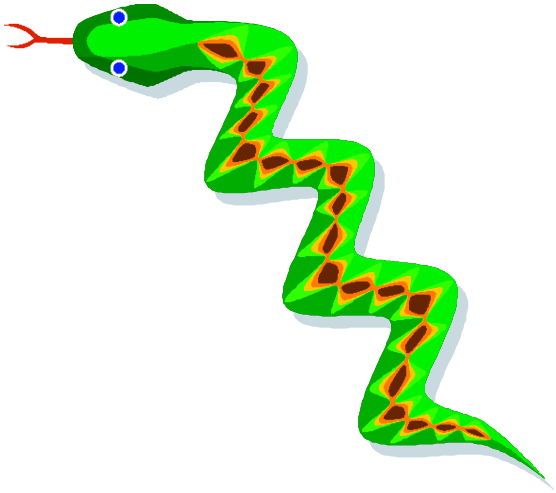
Moth flying high I see
Gathering nectar in the tree!
Bat flying high I see
Catching insects in the tree!
Tree frog sticky feet I see
High up in the top of the tree!
Moth caught up in web I see!
Spider wove it in the tree!
Woodpecker rat-a-tats I see
Finding insects in the tree!
Squirrels eating nuts I see
High up in the tree!
Snake slithers up I see
Looking for nest in the tree!
Caterpillar munching leaves I see
Fly as butterfly from the tree!
Do you see who lives in a tree?

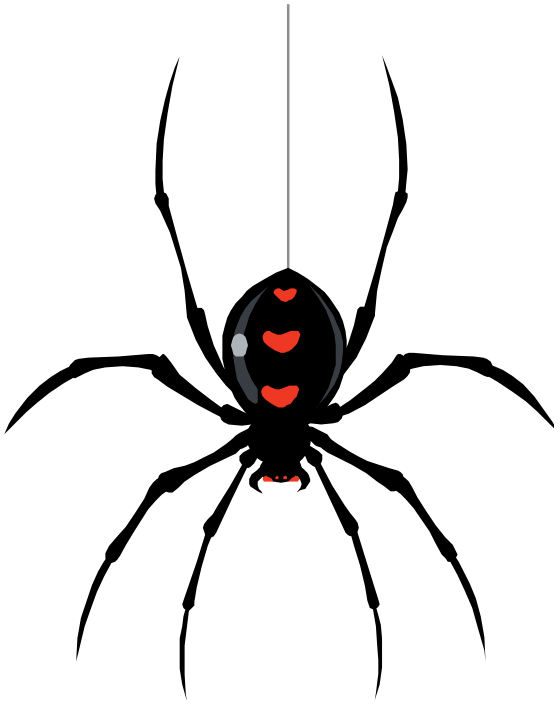
You can act out Toddler Tall Oak Tree using large pictures for the animals

What are all the things that can live in a tree?
A squirrel and a bat and a bird I see.
A snake and a spider and a butterfly—
Some down low and some up high!









Trees do many things besides being tree houses for wildlife.

Trees do many things to help us:

- Provide shade and a place to play
- Help the air and climate be healthy
- Provide a place for living things to live
- Provide nuts and fruit to eat

You can act out tree parts:

***<u>Heartwood</u> lubdub* pat chest--strength**

***<u>Roots</u> slurp* like a sponge to absorb water and nutrients**

Travel up> whoosh up like a straw to the trunk and branches and leaves

<u>Leaves</u> engine chug chug make arms move like gears, make food from sun and air

***Travel down>whoosh down* to the branches and trunk**

<u>Outer bark</u> punch=protects the tree like armor/ bark

You can sing songs about wildlife in a tree!

Act out *Gray Squirrel:*

Gray squirrel (2 steps left), gray squirrel (2 steps right), Swish your fluffy tail (wiggle rear).

Gray squirrel (2 steps left), gray squirrel (2 steps right), Swish your fluffy tail (wiggle rear).

Wrinkle up your little nose (touching nose), hold a nut between your toes. (2 hands together by mouth)

Gray squirrel (2 steps left), gray squirrel (2 steps right), Swish your fluffy tail (wiggle rear).

Gray squirrel (2 steps left), gray squirrel (2 steps right), Swish your fluffy tail (wiggle rear).

Growing Up WILD

Sung to: "The Farmer in the Dell"

The trees are growing leaves,
(Raise arms overhead, fingers touching.)
The trees are growing leaves.
With soil and rain and sunny days,
The trees are growing leaves.
The trees are growing roots,
(Bend over and touch floor.)
The trees are growing roots.
With soil and rain and sunny days,
The trees are growing roots.
The trees are growing bark,
(Run hands up and down sides.)
The trees are growing bark.
With soil and rain and sunny days,
The trees are growing bark.

http://www.preschooleducation.com/stree.shtml

Sung to *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*

Roots (feet) , trunks (chest), branches(arms out) , bark (hugging self) and leaves (flapping hands) , bark and leaves.

Roots, trunks, branches, bark and leaves, bark and leaves.

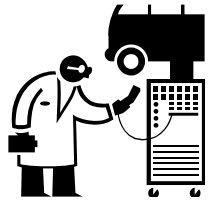
Buds (wiggling fingertips), and fruits (fist), and flowers (open hand) in the breeze (puffing) --

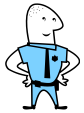
Those are the parts of trees, parts of trees! ((arm reaching up)

http://sciencepoems.net/sciencevideos/TreeSongHeadShouldYT-SPN.aspx#.WI0MgLGZPBI

Tree Factory for Toddlers

- Roots slurp up water and *nutrients*/food—slurp—hands low and squeeze like a sponge
- Food and water whoosh up the trunk—whoosh—hands from floor up
- Leaves are the engine making energy—chug chug with arms working like pistons
- Energy whooshes down the trunk—whoosh—hands from high to floor
- The heartwood lets the tree stand strong—tap chest—lubdub
- The bark protects the tree like clothing—give a hug around the middle



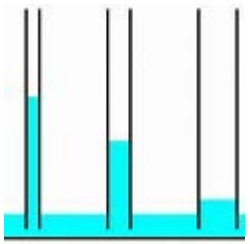


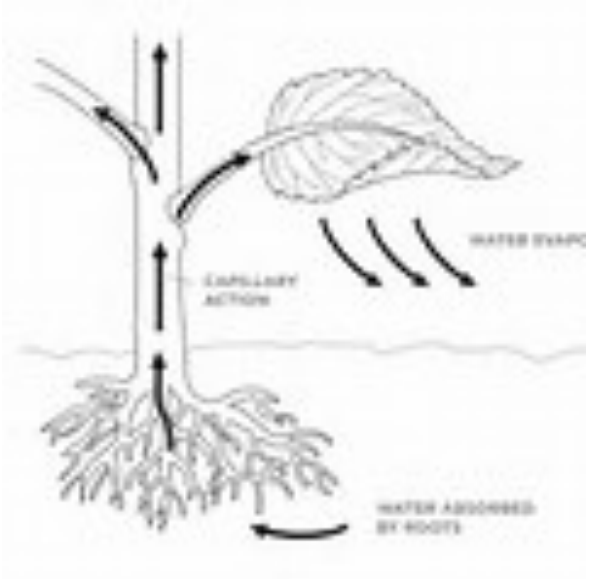
How water moves up trees--

- Root push

- Capillary action

Like a straw





- Transpiration pull

You can read *Miss Wendy's Tree.*

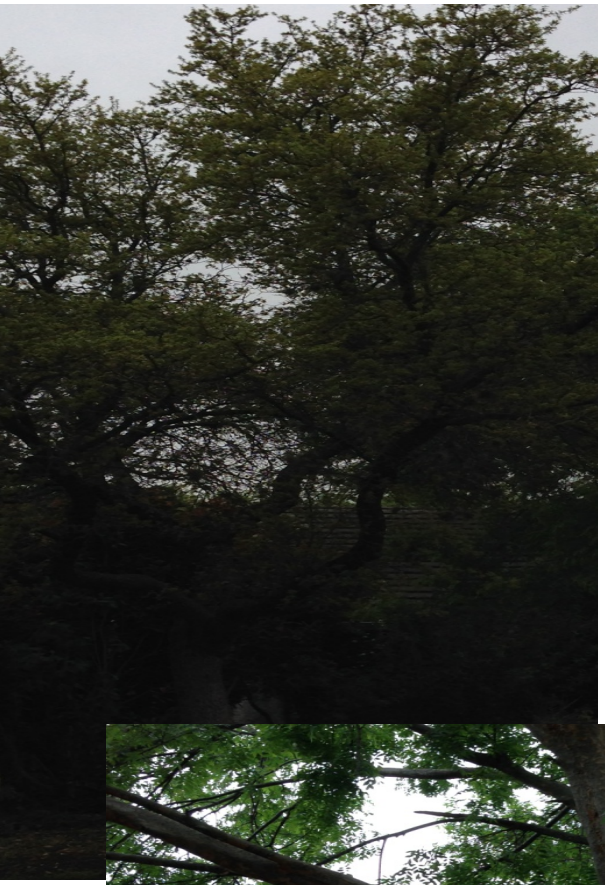
Miss Wendy's Tree

23 years ago, the telephone Pioneers were giving away tiny tiny itsy-bitsy tumble sized saplings at Miss Wendy's school. None of the teachers wanted them, they were so little. But Miss Wendy loves trees, so she took a sapling in its thimble sized root ball home to Mr. Stan to plant. Mr. Stan said," I'm not going to plant that –it will never grow—it's too small."

But Miss Wendy loved the tiny twiglet and believed it would grow and it started to grow.

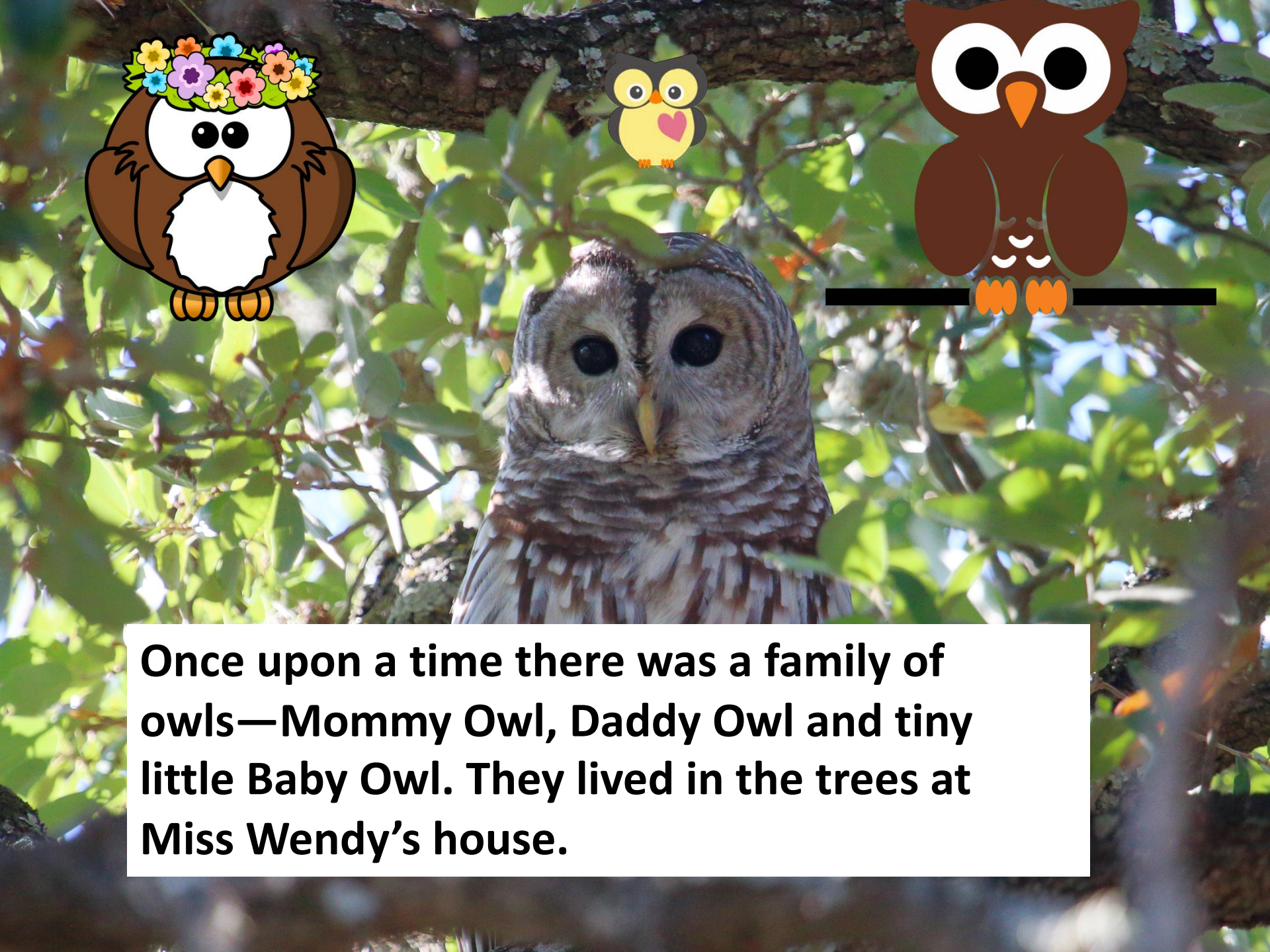
And grow and grow!

And grow!



You can read the story or watch it as a slideshow!

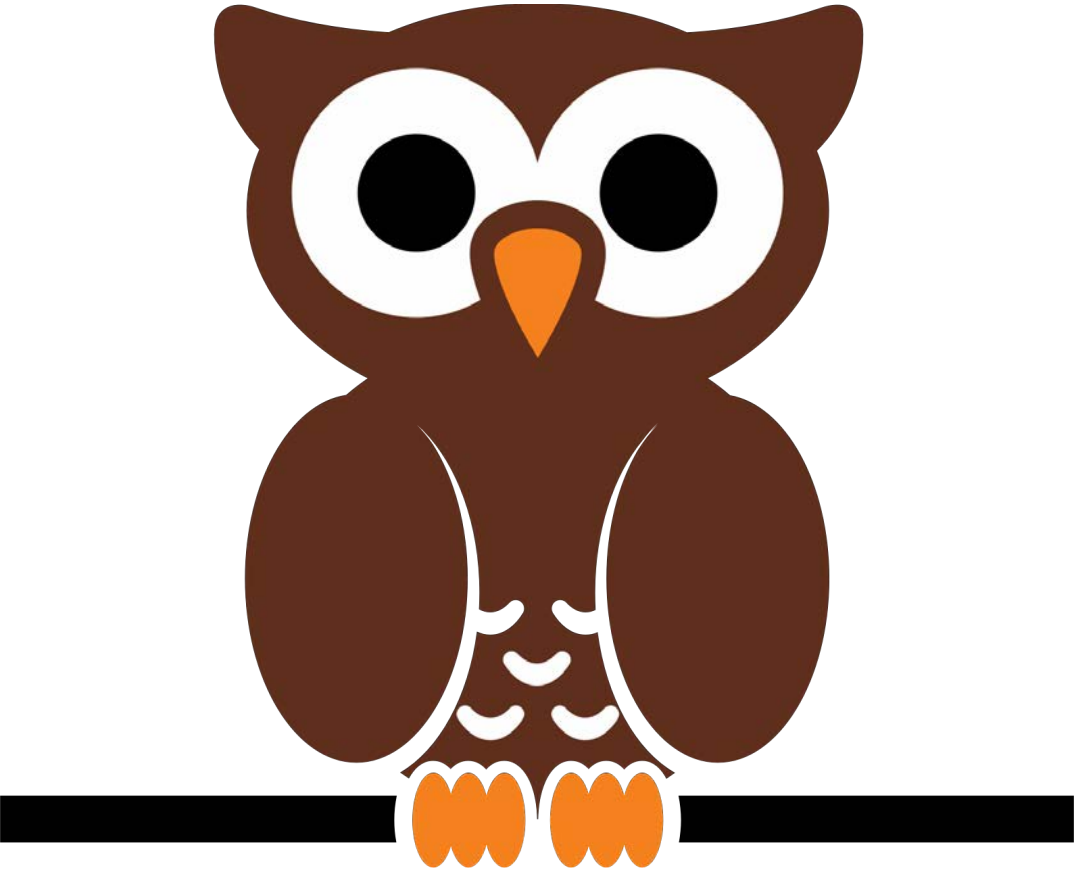
Miss Wendy's Owl



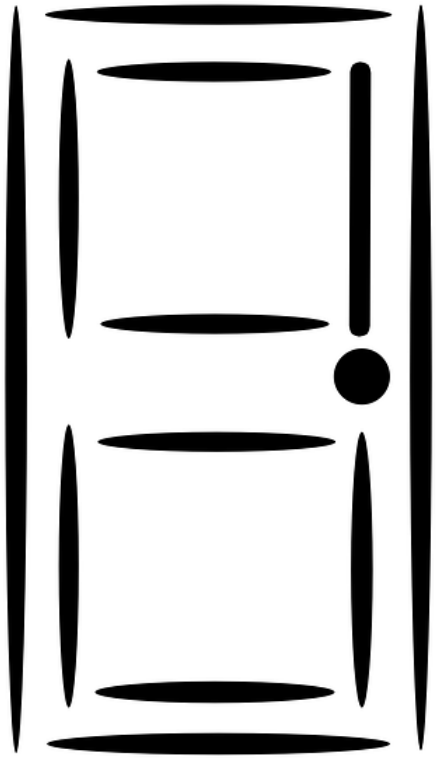
Once upon a time there was a family of owls—Mommy Owl, Daddy Owl and tiny little Baby Owl. They lived in the trees at Miss Wendy's house.

Mommy Owl liked to fly onto Miss Wendy's roof.

Daddy Owl liked to have a conversation with Miss Wendy—who cooks for you you who cooks for you you!

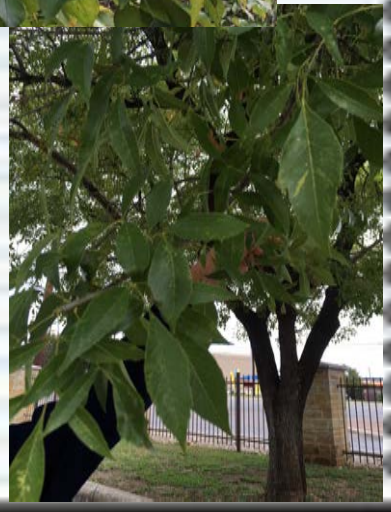


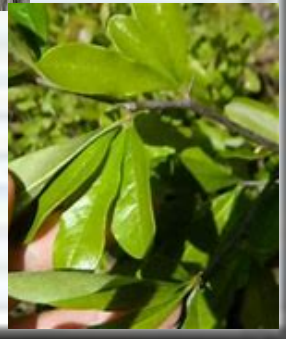
Baby Owl was learning to fly and liked to sit in the doorway.



Do a tree walk around your house. We can use all our senses to experience the parts, similarities and differences in trees. Look for animals, birds and insects in trees, signs of life in trees, and things that could be homes or food. Match paint color chips to bark and leaves or use the tree journal 2sided sheets.

Tree journal side 1



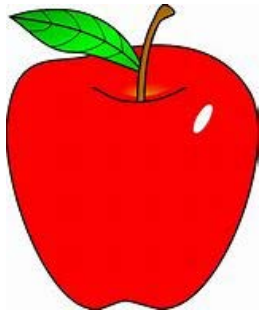


Tree journal side 2

You can make a tree meal!

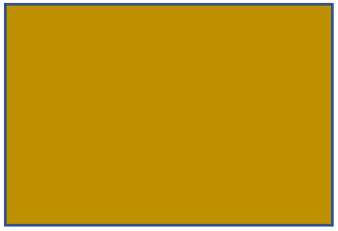
What's on the menu?

How many tree foods can you find in your home? Look at the foods in your kitchen—which ones came from trees?



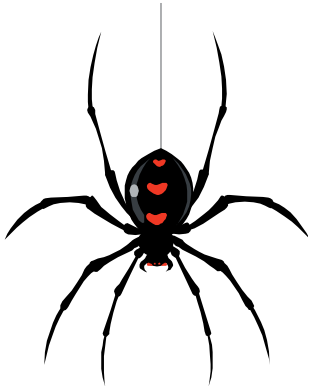
You can color or paste colored paper on to the tree outline and cut out the living things to glue on it.

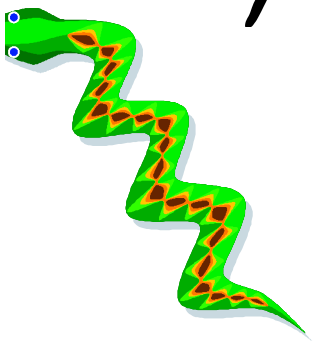
Tear brown and green paper and glue onto a tree outline.

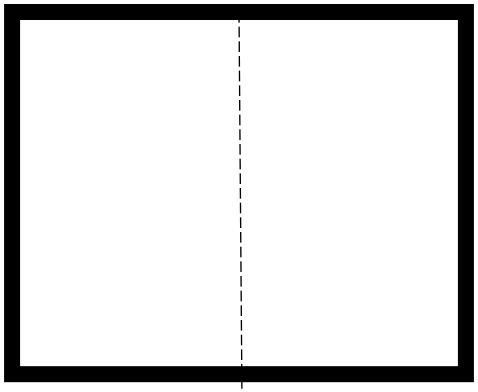
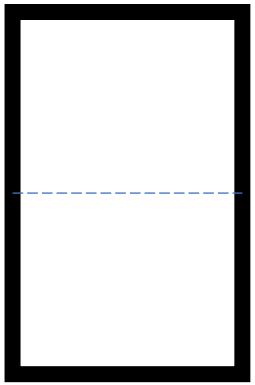


You can collect pieces of bark and leaves to glue on too!

Cut out for art project—you can glue them on your tree.





You can make a mini-book!

- Fold the paper in half
- Then in half again.