

TREES

Brainstorm everything you know about trees. List both about scientific facts and of their practical uses.

List as many Bible stories as you can recall that include trees.

Read this selection of verses and ponder God's use of the theme in Scripture:

Genesis 1:11-12, 29
Job 14:7-9
Isaiah 55:12
Ezekiel 17:24, 47:7-12
Matthew 7:17-19
Romans 11:17-24
Galatians 3:13
1 Peter 2:24

Explore this Hebrew word & picture:

Ets (H6086)

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Can you think of any fictional stories that use trees in the narrative? How are they usually portrayed?

What thoughts or feelings do trees stir up in you when you are outside in nature?

Read each of these verses about the Tree of Life:

Genesis 2:9, 3:22-24
Proverbs 3:13-18, 11:30
Revelation 22:2, 14, 19

What else do we know about wisdom and knowledge?

Read Colossians 2:2-3

Take some time to reflect on all you've learned.
How do trees give glory to Jesus & illustrate God's living story?
Have you made any new discoveries?

ENGAGE IN WONDER

How do trees illustrate God's living story? Reflect on all you're learned.

Here are some additional questions to ignite your curiosity and imagination:

- How many of your basic needs are provided for by a tree?
- Why do you think a tree is commonly used as a symbol of life in so many cultures and religions?
- What are some of the most special objects in the Bible that were made out of wood?
- Do you think God created different varieties of trees for specific purposes in His story?
- The ocean symbolizes death in the Bible. In fact, there will not be a sea in the new creation. Do you think God purposefully made wood to float on water? Why?
- The Bible often personifies trees in Scripture. Why do you think so?
- Trees are different than other seed bearing plants. How are they different?
- Ponder the principle of exponential growth as you consider the life cycle of a tree and fruit.
- Why do you think man was removed from the garden so that they could not eat from the "tree of life"?