

# Passports™: Experiences for Pre-K Success – Trees E-Z Planner

## Take Home Opportunities

A sampling of learning experiences, that provide ways to connect and engage families in the topic of study.

## Skill and Concept Focus

An easy way to see a sample of learning experiences that focus on colors, shapes, numbers, and/or letters.

### Subtheme 1: Trees and Their Parts

#### Take Home Opportunities

Learning Experience	Page Number
Planting Tree Seeds	11
Put Me in the Book	13
Tear a Tree	16
Arboreal Artwork	16
Collection Creations	16

#### Skill and Concept Focus

Learning Experience	Page Number	Colors	Shapes	Numbers	Letters
Tree Graph	10				
Poet-Tree	12				
Onomatopoeia	13				
Constructing Trees	14				
Collect and Count	15				
Tear a Tree	16				

### Subtheme 2: Tree Habitats

#### Take Home Opportunities

Learning Experience	Page Number
Animal Stories	26
How Tall?	27
Paint with Feathers	30
Color Curious	31
Simplicity	31

#### Skill and Concept Focus

Learning Experience	Page Number	Colors	Shapes	Numbers	Letters
"Hide" and Seek	24				
Rainstorm Brainstorm	24				
Alphabet Animals	26				
Sort and Count Feathers	28				
Seeing Spots	30				
Simplicity	31				

### Subtheme 3: Tree Products

#### Take Home Opportunities

Learning Experience	Page Number
Wooden Jewelry	42
Shaker Ins-TREE-ments	43
Pretty Paper Boxes	44
Stick Structures	44
Animal Totems	45

#### Skill and Concept Focus

Learning Experience	Page Number	Colors	Shapes	Numbers	Letters
Two Red Apples	40				
Map and Globe	41				
Explore the Trunk	41				
Count and Clip	43				
Shaker Ins-TREE-ments	43				
Storytellers	45				

### Subtheme 4: Preserving Trees

#### Take Home Opportunities

Learning Experience	Page Number
Seasonal Trees	53
The Three R's	54
Recycled Sculptures	58
Impressions	59
Natural Textures	59

#### Skill and Concept Focus

Learning Experience	Page Number	Colors	Shapes	Numbers	Letters
Rainforest Rally	52				
The Three R's	54				
Shadow Shapes	56				
Milk Cap Counting	56				
Impressions	59				
Picking Apples	60				

## Supercenter Ideas

### What are Supercenters?

Supercenters are elaborate centers for play and exploration that inspire deeper investigation of a topic. To expand an area into a Supercenter, choose materials that add complexity, variety, and choices of things to do for discovery and dramatic play.

### Subtheme 1: Trees and Their Parts

Transform your science center into a botanist's laboratory. Set out several resources about trees (field guides, posters, photographs), fallen tree items (twigs, leaves, bark, seeds), unbreakable magnifiers, a balance scale, a tub of water, and drawing materials. Children will enjoy the opportunity to freely explore, investigate, and discover the wonderful world of trees.

### Subtheme 2: Tree Habitats

Find, buy, or make puppets of rain forest animals. Add the puppets and a rain forest recording (animal sounds and rain) to your dramatic play or puppet center. Children may want to create their own rain forest scenery for their puppet shows by drawing or painting on butcher paper. (Note: If you do not have a puppet show stand, simply cut a large hole out of a refrigerator box.)

### Subtheme 3: Tree Products

Trees are amazing! They not only provide us with shade, clean air, and fruits, but with many other products we use each and every day. Transform an area of your room into a "tree store" that features a variety of products that come from trees. Stock the shelves with toilet paper, paper plates, tissues, cups, napkins, paper towels, magazines, books, syrup, and other items based on children's interest. Don't forget a cash register.

### Subtheme 4: Preserving Trees

Reuse and recycle! Create a play area made out of used cardboard. Invite children to help you design the layout and tape the pieces together. With children safely out of the way, you may also want to cut holes in boxes so they can pass from one box to another as if moving through a tunnel. Get creative with your cardboard selections! Reuse oatmeal containers, shoe boxes, wrapping-paper rolls, large appliance boxes, etc.