



Tree Journal: 14 Days with a Tree

Get to know a tree in your backyard, neighborhood or local park and post your experiences on THPRD social media!

Materials needed: notebook/journal, pencil and your imagination!

Optional materials: watercolors/paints, tree guide, glue for nature objects, colored pencils

Day 1: Inspiration

In a rectangle, circle, or triangle (whatever shape you want), determine who you would like to dedicate this journal to or find a quote about nature, write it in your journal, and draw a picture or boarder to go along with your quote. This should be your journal's first day.

Day 2: Drawing

Draw your tree. This page should be filled with your tree. It should include as much detail as possible. Use color or texture to depict your tree.

Day 3: Writing

Think of 15 descriptive words to describe your tree.

Day 4: Poetry

Take the list of words from the previous day and use them to write a poem about your tree. Try to use as many words from your list as you can. You can use circle poems, rhyming poems, response poems, haikus; be creative!

Day 5: History

Find out how the tree got there. Is it a native species? Is it a conifer? Deciduous? What other characteristics does the tree have?

Day 6: Creative writing

Write a story about the tree's life. How has the tree changed, as it has gotten older or taller? Who has used the tree for recreation or a home?



Day 7: Art

Paint a picture of the tree using watercolors (or crayons, colored pencils). Include surrounding objects or animals that might use the tree as a home.

Day 8: Literature

Read your favorite book under the tree, try to identify the tree with a field guide book or through on-line research or read a story out loud under the tree with your family.

Day 9: Cartography

Draw a map of the surrounding areas of the tree. Include details to show what lives around the tree. Remember light, shadows, and elevation in your details.

Day 10: Math

Using the shadow of the tree and your shadow, calculate the height of the tree. Measure the trunk of the tree and estimate the age of the tree.

Day 11: Music

Write a song about your tree. You can use the tune of another song if you need help.

Day 12: Visual

Make rubbings of the bark or leaves and take a photo of the tree.

Day 13: Perspective

Using a 3x3 square, create three, up close drawings of three different areas of your tree. Next to each square, include a thought or quote to go along with the drawing.

Day 14: Gratitude

Enjoy a picnic under or near your tree and reflect on what you are grateful for.

