

Dear Family,

In my class today, we worked together and made a really big tree using paper, paint, leaves, and glue.

Did You Know?

- A tree is a giant plant. There are two main types of trees: deciduous and conifers. Deciduous trees grow broad leaves. Conifers have needles. Most deciduous trees have leaves that change colors. Most deciduous trees lose all of their leaves in the fall. They grow a whole new set of leaves in the spring. Most conifers are evergreen. This means when their needles die, new ones grow—even during the autumn and winter. These trees are green all year round.
- There are parts of a tree you can see. They are the trunk, branches, leaves, flowers, and fruit. The roots are under the ground. The trunk delivers the nutrients. The nutrients come from the roots. The trunk takes them to all of the other parts of the tree. The branches are like mini-trunks. They bring the nutrients to the leaves. The leaves take in the air. They “breathe” through little holes. They change the sunlight into energy. The bark is a hard skin. It is on the outside of the trunk. The bark protects the trunk.

Ask Your Child:

- How did you make the tree trunk?
- How did you make the branches?
- What did you use for the leaves?
- Where did your teacher put the big tree when your class was finished making it?

Activities To Do With Your Child:

- Go for a walk outside with your child. Look at the trees. Do they all look the same or different? Help your child look closely at several trees. Touch the trunk of each tree—do they feel the same? Pick up some of the leaves that are on the ground around each of the trees. Compare the leaves—are they the same or different? Talk about the shape, size, color, and texture of the leaves. Bring the leaves home, and make a mini-tree with your child. You will need a piece of paper, crayons, and some glue. Draw a trunk and branches on the paper. Use the glue to attach the leaves to the tree branches.

Vocabulary To Use With Your Child:

- **tree** – a plant with a main trunk and many branches; some trees grow very tall.
- **trunk** – the main “stem” of a tree.
- **branch** – a woody part or division of a tree or bush that grows out from the trunk.
- **leaf** – a growth from the stem or branch of a tree or plant that is flat; a leaf is usually green.
- **trace** – to draw around something to make an outline.
- **arm** – a body part between the shoulder and wrist.