Great job! You are now a Budding Botanist! You are learning to study plants. Thanks for coming to visit us!

Please come back to the Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens!

- ✔ Visit the new Train Garden.
- ✔ Hike some of the woodland trails with a stop at the Bird Watch.
- ✔ Spot the birds, butterflies and other animals that live in the gardens.
- ✔ Investigate the 8 ecosystems here.
- ✔ Draw or photograph the things you see.

Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens

1/2 mile West of 69 Highway at 179th & Antioch
913-685-3604 • www.opabg.org
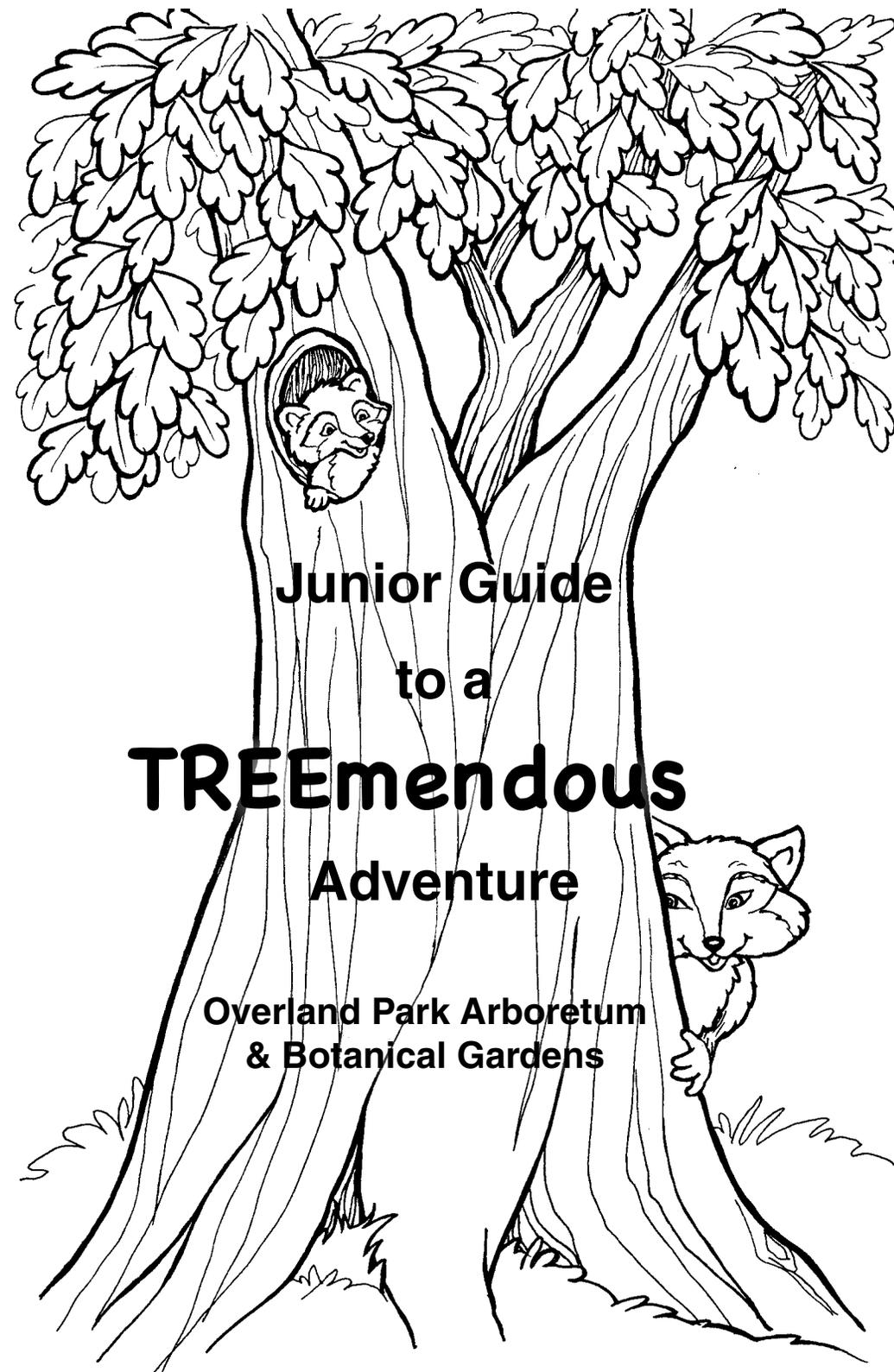
Junior Guide

to a

TREEmendous

Adventure

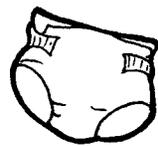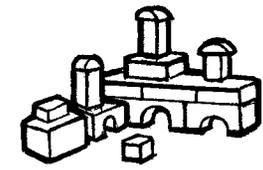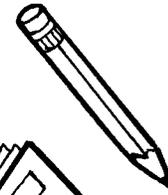**Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens**

Hi Kids! I'm Rosebud the Raccoon. Today we are going to visit a tree.

Trees are the largest of all living plants. They need food, water, sun, air, and space to grow.

I'm Forest the Fox. We will walk around the Arboretum to find a tree we want to study today.

Bring a crayon, a pencil, and a string or tape measure. And ask a grown-up to help you follow the directions.

Remember to leave flowers, leaves, and twigs where they are.

Let's have some fun!

Trees are a part of our everyday lives.

Circle the things you think come from trees.
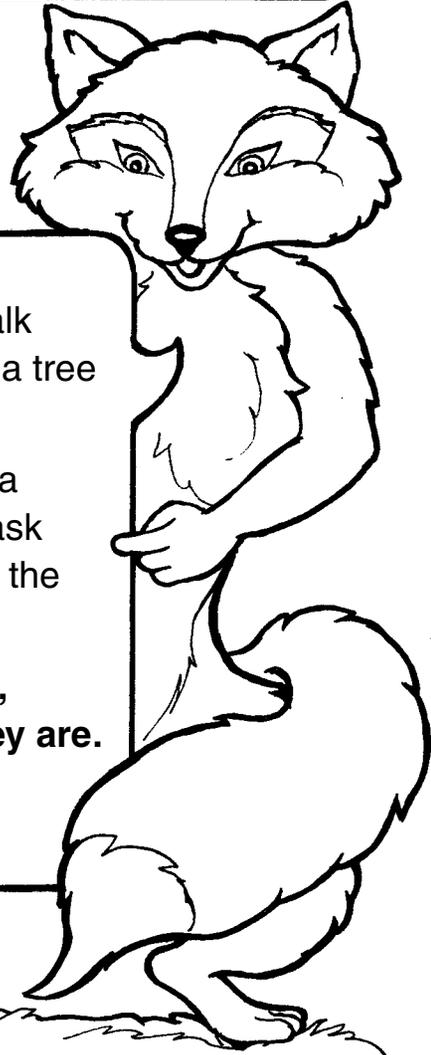
Guess what? All these things come from trees! How many more can you think of?
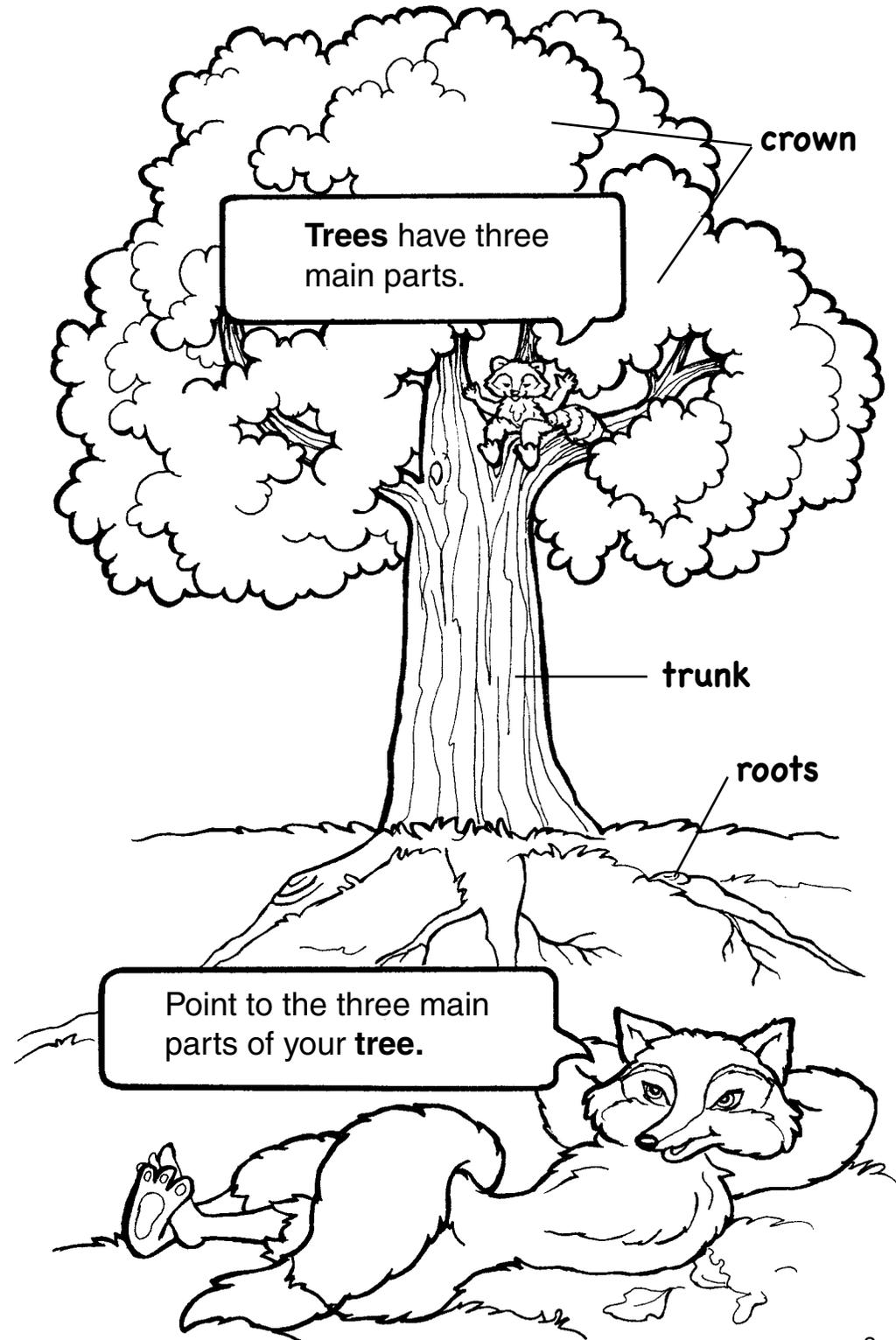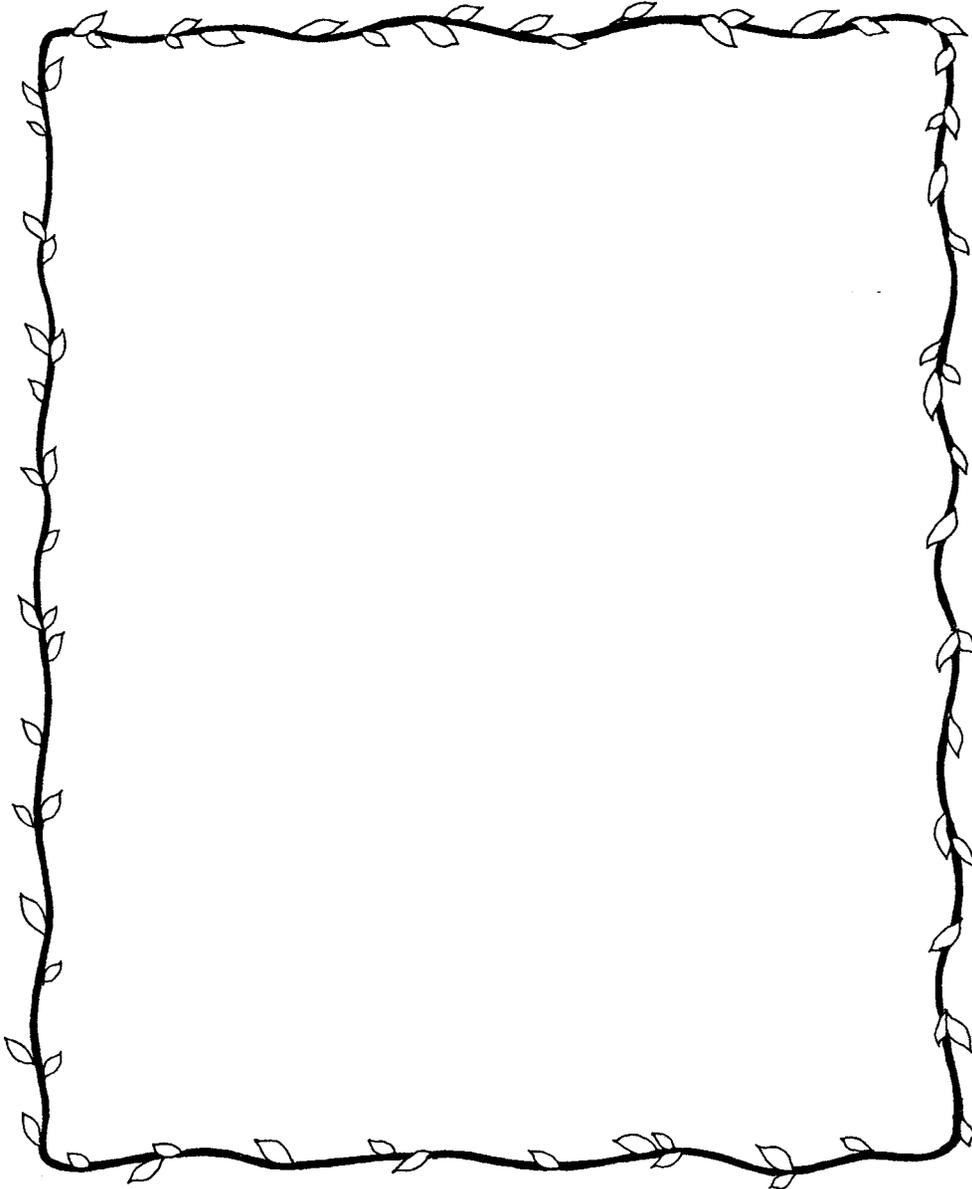
A quiet time with your tree.
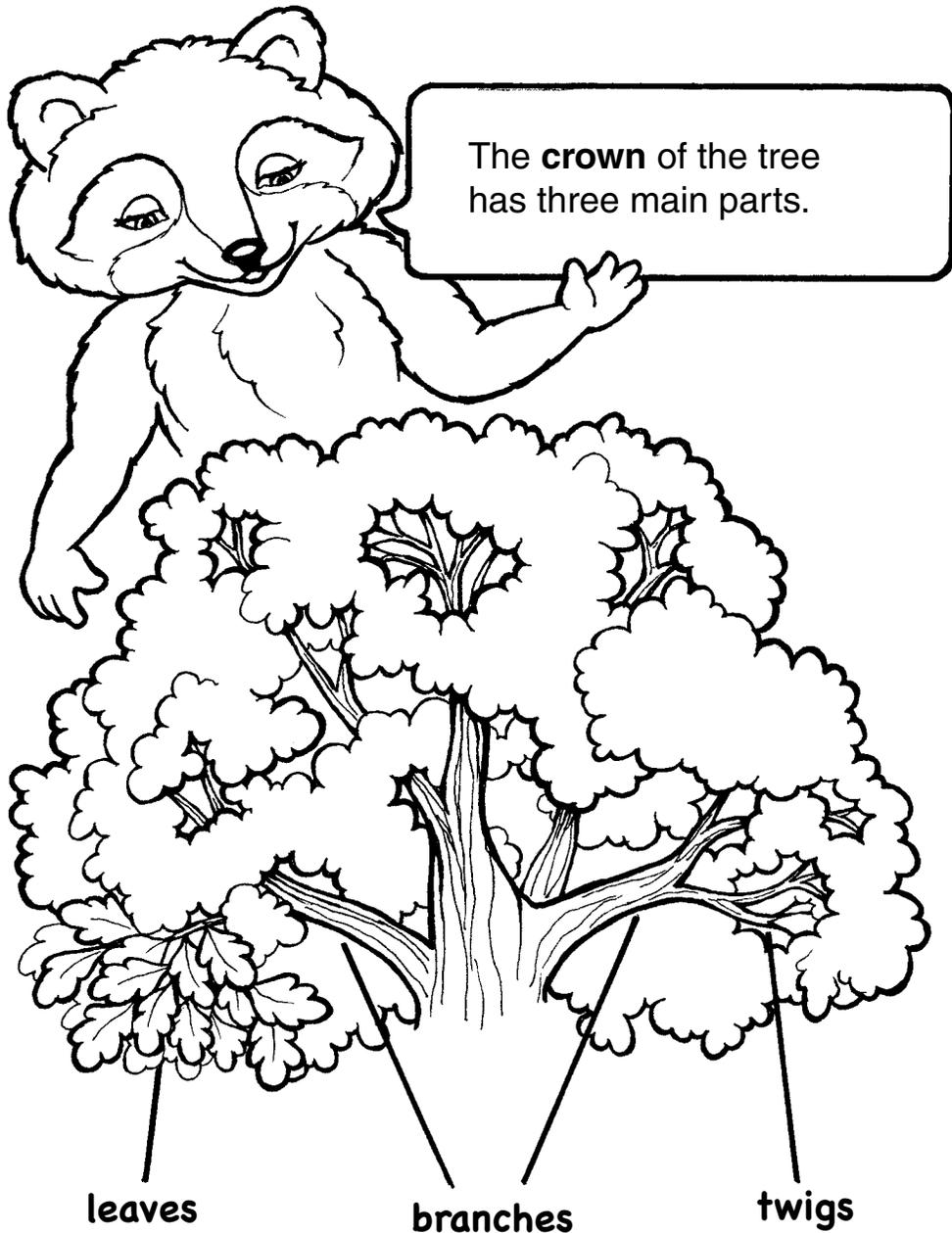
Sit or lie down on your back near your tree.
Be very quiet.

What do you see?

What do you hear?

Draw a picture of your tree.

crown

Trees have three main parts.

trunk

roots

Point to the three main parts of your **tree.**
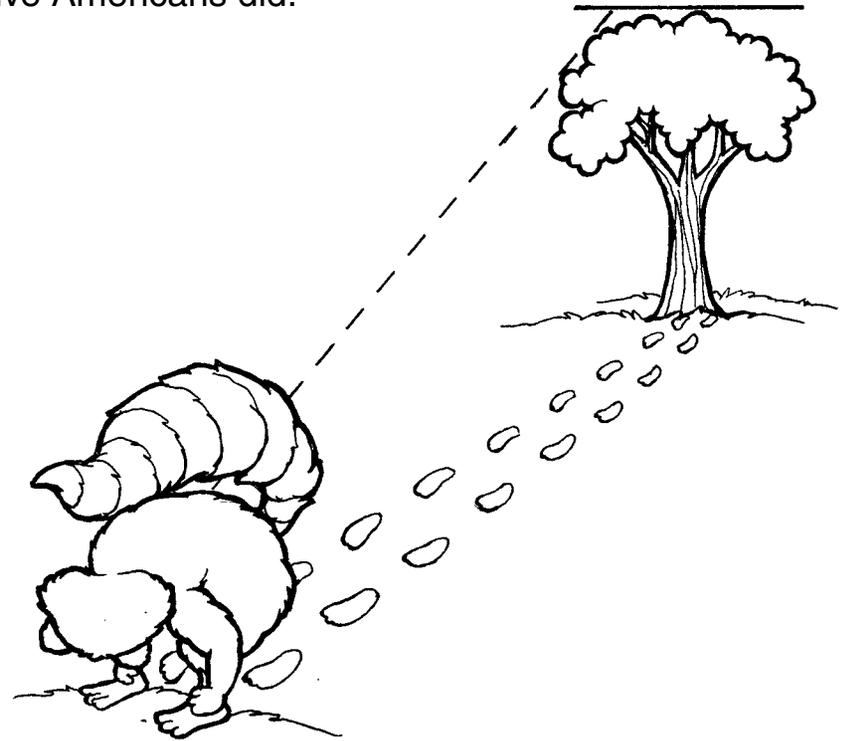
The **crown** of the tree
has three main parts.

leaves

branches

twigs

Point to the **leaves, twigs,** and **branches**
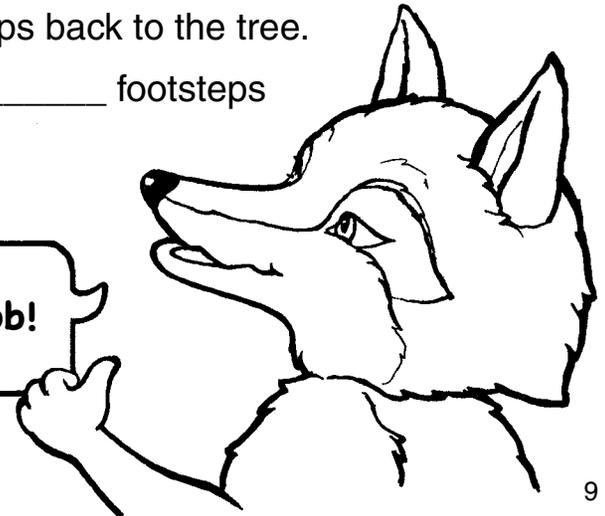on your tree.

Here's a fun way to see how tall your tree is.
Measure the height of your tree like
Native Americans did.

Hold your ankles and walk away from your tree
until you can see the top of the tree from between
your legs. Turn around and measure the
number of footsteps back to the tree.

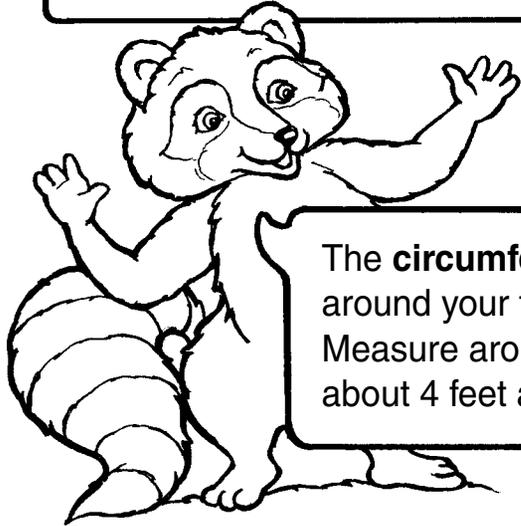My tree is about _____ footsteps
tall.

Good job!

Let's find out the **circumference** of your tree.

What is a **circumference?**

The **circumference** is how big around your tree is. Try these ideas. Measure around your tree trunk about 4 feet above the ground.

1. Use a tape measure or string to find out how many inches around. My tree is _____ inches around.

2. Use your hands, one next to the other, all around the trunk. My tree is _____ hands around.

3. Use your feet and walk around the tree. My tree is _____ footsteps around.

Give your tree a big hug!

Can your arms go all the way around the tree? Yes _____ No _____

Do you need someone else's arms to help you? Yes _____ No _____

Does your tree have leaves _____, or fruit, flowers, or nuts _____ growing on it?

This tree is my friend!

It is a living thing.

Bark

Now put your cheek on your tree's trunk. Describe how the **bark** feels, smells, and looks.

Bark covers the trunk and branches of a tree. **Bark** is like a tree's fingerprint. Each is special. It might be thick and rough, or smooth and thin, or even peeling.

Put this page on the tree and use the side of your crayon or pencil lead to make a **bark** rubbing.

Leaves

Leaves help make food so your tree grows strong.

What do the **leaves** on your tree look like?