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# PARTS OF A TREE

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1st / 2nd Grade

Science

50 min. (25 minutes in the classroom, 25 minutes on site)

Related Save The Giants Lessons:

- ❖ Let's Draw a Tree!

## Learning Objectives:

Students will learn to identify the different parts of a tree and will begin to understand the basic function of each component.

## Required Materials:

- ❖ Chalkboard / Whiteboard / Roll of Kraft Paper

## Directions:

In the classroom, begin by asking students to help as you draw a tree. Explain that in order to draw the picture, you need to be reminded of the parts of a tree. Explain to them that you need to hear the parts in size order, from largest to smallest. As students list parts of the tree (trunk, branches, leaves, bark) for you to draw, ask them to think about the how each part of the tree functions. The number of components listed—as well as the depth of the explanations—will vary by grade level. For reference, a list of common tree components and their basic function can be found on the Save the Giants education page.

At Save the Giants park, have students gather near one of the Giant Sequoias. Students should be asked to point out each of the components that were discussed in the classroom, and to recall the function of each part of the tree. Students may also be asked what parts of a tree they *don't* see (flowers, fruit). This can provide an opportunity to teach students about the differences between softwood (coniferous) and hardwood (deciduous) trees, as the sequoias on site may not mirror the trees that were drawn in the classroom. Save the Giants park offers examples of both softwood and hardwood trees.