

Big on Bark

Read.

Have you ever touched the bark on a tree? Bark covers the trunk of a tree as well as the branches. Trees have two kinds of bark. These are called *outer bark* and *inner bark*. The outer bark is hard and rough. It protects the tree from harm and extreme temperatures. The inner bark is damp and soft. The inner bark carries sugary sap to the leaves and rest of the tree. Who knew the bark of a tree was so important?



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Trees are the main material needed to make paper. When companies that care about the environment harvest a tree, they make sure several more trees are planted or grow naturally in its place.



Write.

1. What is this passage mostly about?

2. Write a definition for each type of bark.

A. inner bark _____

B. outer bark _____

3. Name one way inner bark and outer bark are different.

4. What word in the text means “more than normal”? How do you know?

5. Does inner bark or outer bark have a more important job?

On the back of this paper, write to explain your opinion.

“Big on Bark”

Answer Key

Answers for 2 and 5 will vary.

1. tree bark
3. Possible answers include that the inner bark is damp and soft and the outer bark is hard and rough.
4. extreme; Explanations will vary.

