

Name _____

Commas: introductory elements and series
L.5.2a, b

Trees and Their Traits

Add commas where needed.

1. The best way to identify a tree is to observe its leaves needles fruit seeds and bark.
2. When observing a tree outdoors it is recommended that you look at a tree in isolation which means separate from the things around it.
3. The pine family has needle bundles consisting of two three or five needles joined together at the base.
4. A conifer's needles may be arranged in one of three patterns: pairs of needles that are opposite each other around the twig needles that are in a starlike pattern around the twig or needles that are in the same position around the twig.
5. Containing seeds that animals eat a conifer's cones also serve as decorations in people's homes.
6. Observe the color texture and pattern of the bark when identifying a tree.
7. Next take a moment to look at the leaves.
8. A leaf's edges can be smooth like the willow can be lobed like the red oak or can have pointed teeth like the balsam poplar.
9. Parts of a leaf include the *foliole* (a leaflet) *nervure* (vein) and *petiole* (a slender stem).
10. Broadleaf fruits are fleshy pleasant tasting and colorful.
11. Some examples of broadleaf fruits are apples plums and pears.
12. Often called *helicopters* the winged seeds of the maple tree may cover the streets in the fall.
13. Forestry is the science of planting developing caring for and managing our forests.
14. The next time you go for a walk in the woods take time to observe the amazing nature that surrounds you.



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**Bonus
Box**

Think about your favorite tree. Write five sentences to describe a leaf from that tree. Include at least six adjectives. Use commas where appropriate.

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Note to the teacher: Take a walk through a virtual forest—and help students discover fascinating facts about trees—at TheForestAcademy.com, sponsored by Domtar.

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“Trees and Their Traits”

Answer Key

1. The best way to identify a tree is to observe its leaves, needles, fruit, seeds, and bark.
2. When observing a tree outdoors, it is recommended that you look at a tree in isolation, which means separate from the things around it.
3. The pine family has needle bundles consisting of two, three, or five needles joined together at the base.
4. A conifer’s needles may be arranged in one of three patterns: pairs of needles that are opposite each other around the twig, needles that are in a starlike pattern around the twig, or needles that are in the same position around the twig.
5. Containing seeds that animals eat, a conifer’s cones also serve as decorations in people’s homes.
6. Observe the color, texture, and pattern of the bark when identifying a tree.
7. Next, take a moment to look at the leaves.
8. A leaf’s edges can be smooth like the willow, can be lobed like the red oak, or can have pointed teeth like the balsam poplar.
9. Parts of a leaf include the *foliole* (a leaflet), *nervure* (vein), and *petiole* (a slender stem).
10. Broadleaf fruits are fleshy, pleasant tasting, and colorful.
11. Some examples of broadleaf fruits are apples, plums, and pears.
12. Often called *helicopters*, the winged seeds of the maple tree may cover the streets in the fall.
13. Forestry is the science of planting, developing, caring for, and managing our forests.
14. The next time you go for a walk in the woods, take time to observe the amazing nature that surrounds you.

Bonus Box: Sentences will vary.

