

# Leaf Rubbings

## DID YOU KNOW?

Over one-third of the Earth's land is covered in forest. Forests are full of a variety of trees and plants that give humans and other animals food, shelter, and clean air to breath. Learning about trees and how they help the Earth and are useful to us is important. The best way to start learning more is to be able to identify trees and the best way to do that is by their leaves.

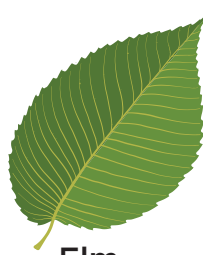
### Leaf types



Birch



Dogwood



Elm



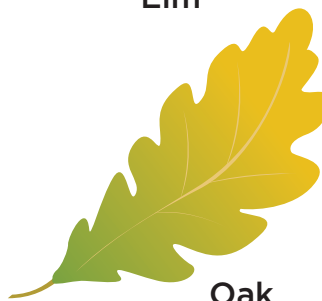
Hickory



Linden



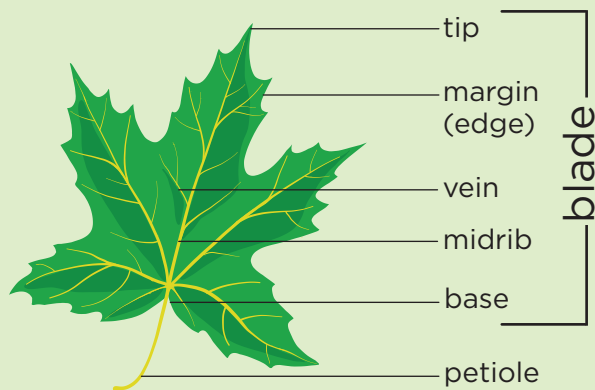
Maple



Oak



Sweet Gum



### Parts of a Leaf

- Petiole — leaf stalk
- Blade — flat part of the leaf
- Midrib — large center vein
- Veins — branch of the midrib and form network
- Margins — edges of the plant leaves

### Features to notice about a leaf

- Size — large, medium, small
- Shape — round, oval or oblong, thin, elliptic, lobed, triangle, heart, or fan
- Edges — smooth, rough, jagged
- Color — light green, dark green, yellow, red

## HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO

**There are many things you can do to help:**

- Make flashcards to help you learn and remember key characteristics of leaves
- Do leaf rubbings (activity instructions on back of this sheet) to make a picture of leaves

## FIND OUT MORE *Informational websites and fun resources:*

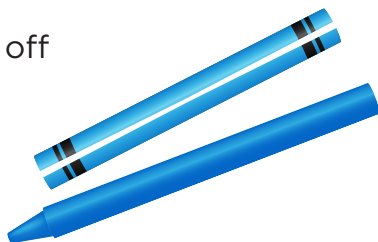
- Arbor Day Foundation, [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)
- Your local County Extension Office experts
- [www.leaf-id.com](http://www.leaf-id.com)

# ACTIVITY: LEAF RUBBINGS

Make a picture of a leaf to help you learn about the parts of a leaf and the types of trees you have near where you live.

## What You Need:

- A leaf or two
- Crayon with paper peeled off
- Paper
- Hard surface to work on



## Instructions:

- 1** Go outside and find a leaf or two.
- 2** Lay the leaf flat on a table or other hard surface.
- 3** Place a piece of plain paper over the leaf.
- 4** Find a crayon and remove the paper cover that is around the crayon.
- 5** Hold the crayon on its side and rub it over the paper that has the leaf under it. Try holding the paper down as flat as possible with the other hand.
- 6** As you rub more over the leaf, you will start to see a picture of the leaf come through.

