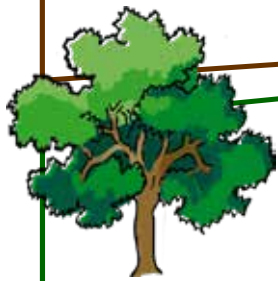


Agriculture Adventure for Families



This month we give thanks to the many people in the world who are heroes for giving of themselves for the benefit of others. Earth Day falls on April 22nd so this month we want to celebrate something else that helps to sustain our lives: Trees. Take a moment to enjoy our look at how much we get from the trees around us. Besides giving us oxygen, they improve soil quality, air quality and quality of life such as reducing stress.

Trees are wonderful organisms from which we derive many beneficial products. Most people are aware that lumber is made from trees. But did you know there are hundreds of other tree products, too? These products come from every part of a tree. Many tree products are made of cellulose, or cellulose in combination with other products. Cellulose is a substance that comprises the cell walls of plant cells and is the major component of wood.



When we speak of tree products, we may get the idea that a product is something that must be sold. However, trees provide important benefits which do not have an associated cost, such as producing oxygen, improving air and water quality, providing watershed protection, supplying wildlife habitat and offering recreational opportunities. Trees growing as forests provide many recreational benefits, including hiking, horseback riding, camping, fishing, hunting and picnicking. Trees produce shade. Properly planted, trees can help lower air conditioning costs in the summer. Trees can act as barriers to wind, blocking cooling effects in winter and helping to stop erosion. The beauty provided by trees in all seasons of the year is priceless.



What tree would be complete without a feeder to start attracting the birds as they head back this spring? Using any supplies you have at home, challenge yourself (or your neighbors or children) to designing the best feeder. Bird feeding is most helpful at times of when birds need the most energy, such as during temperature extremes, migration, and in late winter or early spring, when natural seed sources are depleted. If you are able to get bird seed, go ahead and fill it up. If not consider offering small amounts of fruit, crushed eggshells or even nesting materials, such as hair, small pieces of string or yarn, and small strips of cloth to help nesting birds.

<http://www.greatstems.com/2013/05/wildlife-projects-for-kids-milk-jug-bird-feeders.html>



Source: <https://dnr2.illinois.gov/teachkids/>



If the opportunity presents itself this month, head outdoors and see if you can spot some trees and tree parts explained in **I Can Name 50 Trees Today!: All About Trees**. Be sure to look beyond the cover of this perfect book for readers of all ages. While stopping to admire some of the world's most amazing trees, the Cat and Co. teach beginning readers how to identify different species from the shape of their crowns, leaves, lobes, seeds, bark, and fruit. Kids will learn about many trees common to North America.

Choose your prize:

Choices include a \$25 Beggar's Pizza Gift Card, a \$25 Home Run Inn Gift Card, OR *3 AMC Movie Tickets *AMC Yellow tickets not valid in California, New York & New Jersey.

Complete the Word Search puzzle for your chance to win! Winners will be contacted by mail.

Mail to: Cook Co. Farm Bureau
Ag Adventures Word Search
6438 Joliet Rd
Countryside, IL 60525
Fax to: 708-579-6056
Email to: FBcooperator@gmail.com

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2020 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies. Good luck!

Last Month's Word Search Winner Is...

Thomas Nordbrock

April Word Search

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Air | Oxygen |
| Apple | Plant |
| Barriers | Product |
| Cellulose | Seasons |
| Erosion | Shampoo |
| Gum | Tree |
| Hiking | Water |
| Lumber | Wood |

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Membership #: _____

(Membership # is located on front of paper)

If you were to win, check your preference:

___ Beggar's Pizza GC ___ HRI GC ___ 3 Movie Tix
(If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

R W W T P E Y P A A N S A E Z
I E R A L R S C B F E E Y S L
R E B P T H O S Q A G A J O L
E X P M A E R D P U Y S M L G
U A M M U E R W U Y X O X U T
H J P B I L R I A C O N H L G
C O P R G N I K I H T S I L Q
O R R P L A N T I C Z F N E O
O A S N E F N C V G N Z Q C M
B C Q T N E Z L N G V R T G G
N V Y H I E G V W N G H Z G R
D I A G G U J D O V N H R V A
J Y R T Q B W T O G L B O X H
H O Y O R E D Y D W W P G H X
V X K O F X B R E R O S I O N