

EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

Barking up the Right Tree **Chautauqua Park**

Several varieties of trees can be found in Chautauqua Park. Oaks, ashes, elms, ponderosa pines are just a few of the types of trees to be found. Take time to notice the different textures of bark, shapes of leaves and tree heights. Choose two different trees to compare.

Background: Several varieties of trees can be found in Chautauqua Park. Oaks, ashes, elms, ponderosa pines are just a few of the types of trees to be found. Take time to notice the different textures of bark, shapes of leaves and tree heights. Choose two different trees to compare.

Questions to Ask:

1. Which tree has the biggest trunk? Can you wrap your arms around the trunk?
2. Describe the texture of the bark for each tree. Is it smooth, bumpy, rough, etc?
3. Look at the tree branches as well as the leaves or needles. How are they different and/or the same?
4. Name some ways that trees help humans and animals? *Examples could include: provide shelter, source of shade, provide food for animals and humans, absorb carbon dioxide - clean our air*

Activity: Draw a picture of both trees below highlighting their differences and demonstrating how they can be used to help humans and animals.

Tree #1	Tree #2

Additional Activity:

The trunk of a tree can range from smooth to very bumpy. Take note of the textures of a tree by making a tree rubbing.

You will need some blank paper, as well as some crayons with their wrapping torn off. **You can either hold the paper or use tape to hold it on the tree.** Rub in one direction with the crayon, you'll start to see the texture sketched to your paper. This may take a few tries.

Questions to Ask:

1. How can you tell the differences in trees? (*leaf shape, size, size of tree, has leaves, needles instead of leaves*)
2. When you color, is it best to go in one direction or scribble any which way? *One direction*
3. What are some different textures? *Bumpy, smooth, lumpy, rough, course*