



Become "Tree Detectives": Identifying Broadleaf Trees...

What is the leaf and bud arrangement?

What is the leaf composition?

SIMPLE LEAF
i.e. basswood

SINGLY COMPOUND
i.e. ash species

PALMATELY COMPOUND
i.e. Ohio buckeye

DOUBLY COMPOUND
i.e. honeylocust

WHORLED
i.e. catalpa

OPPOSITE
i.e. sugar maple

ALTERNATE
i.e. American elm

Leaf and Bud Arrangement

SIMPLE-ALTERNATE
cottonwood, basswood

SIMPLE-OPPOSITE
sugar maple, silver maple

COMPOUND-ALTERNATE
black walnut, honeylocust

COMPOUND-OPPOSITE
boxelder, green ash

What is the leaf shape?

OBOVATE
i.e. chokecherry

OVATE
i.e. hackberry

LANCEOLATE
i.e. willow species

CORDATE
i.e. redbud

LOBED
i.e. pin oak

Leaf Margin Types

TOOTHED
i.e. American elm

POINTED
i.e. pin oak

SMOOTH
i.e. white oak





Become "Tree Detectives":

Identifying Evergreen Trees...



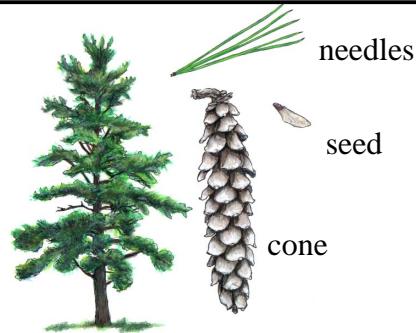
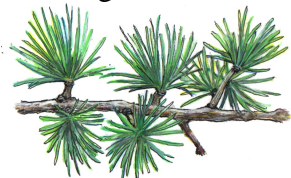
Deciduous
(broadleaf)

Conifer
(evergreen)

Broadleaf trees lose their leaves in the autumn when the daylight gets shorter and temperatures get cold.

Evergreen trees have needle-like leaves that hold on year around. All evergreen trees make cones that have seeds in them.

Tamarack is one example of a conifer that is not evergreen. Every autumn the needles turn yellow and drop to the ground. Each spring new needles grow back.



Pine species have needles in a bundle.



Fir species have flat shaped needles and cones that sit upright on the branches.



Spruce species have needles with four sides and cones that hang down from the branches.

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

Ames, Iowa

Web Based Tree Identification Information

Trees and Shrubs of the ISU Campus

http://Project.bio.iastate.edu/trees/campustrees/ISU_trees.html

Common Trees of Iowa - ISU Forestry Extension

<http://www.exnet.iastate.edu/pages/tree>

What Tree Is That? - National Arbor Day Foundation

<http://www.treelink.org/whattree/index.htm>

Dendrology Page - Virginia Tech

<http://www.fw.vt.edu/dendro/dendrology/dendrohome.htm>

Tree Identification Books

Forest and Shade Trees of Iowa. Peter J. van der Linden & Donald R. Farrar, Iowa State University Press. To order call: 1-800-862-6657, b/w photos.

North American Trees. Richard J. Preston Jr., Iowa State University Press, b/w drawings.

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation & Uses. Michael A. Dirr, Stipes Publishing L.L.C. Champaign, IL. b/w drawings.

Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Trees - Eastern Region. Elbert L. Little, Alfred A. Knopf. color photos.

Additional Material

T.R.E.E. trunk (Tree Resource Environmental Education) available for loan, ISU Forestry Extension at 515-294-6739 or Trees Forever at 1-800-369-1269.

...and justice for all

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