

Lesson Plan

Title: **These are from Trees**

Grade Level: **Kindergarten to 5th Grade**

Overview:

This lesson integrates Shel Silverstein's children's book The Giving Tree with art, language arts and science. Students will gain an understanding of the importance of trees through discussion and activities.

Objective:

- Students will discuss the importance of trees and their many uses
- Students will learn about efforts to properly use natural resources
- Students will engage in activities that will support a discussion on the uses of trees and their importance to our environment

Materials:

- The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
- "What We Do With Wood" diagram (Springs Window Fashions example)
- Picture Find coloring sheet
- "What Do We Make From Trees?" drawing sheet
- Word search
- Sheet for writing a poem/story
- Sawdust clay recipe and 15 cups of sawdust
- Seed bookmark for each student
- Stickers for each student
- Samples: wood slats, wood pellets

(see reverse side)

Activities and Directions:

- Read the story The Giving Tree
- After reading the story, discuss the story with the class to reinforce the theme of the many things trees give us
- Discussion: “What We Do With Wood”
 - Display and review the Springs Window Fashions “What We Do With Wood” diagram and explain the wood usage shown in each of the images
 - Use wood slats, wood pellets and sawdust for examples
- Sample Dialogue:

“Springs Window Fashions is a company that manufactures window blinds. They use wood in a variety of ways. Springs uses wood to make blinds and other window coverings. They make sure to recycle or reuse all the leftover wood from their products — even the sawdust! The sawdust we produce is used to heat our factory and dry the wood, converted into wood pellets to heat homes and given to farmers to use as fertilizer in their fields. Springs Window Fashions also respects trees and everything they give us. It’s very important to plant new trees so we always have enough trees to give us what we need. That’s why Springs Window Fashions is partnering with The Arbor Day Foundation to plant 100,000 trees in the next year!”
- Activity: Drawing Sheet
 - Pass out the sheet for drawing objects and have the children draw pictures of two or three things in the classroom (or at home) that are made of wood or byproducts of wood
 - When drawings are complete, ask a few children to share what they drew
 - Discuss the fact that all the items the children drew started out as trees and were made into those objects
- Activity: Word Search
 - Pass out the word search and have the children complete the puzzle
 - Discuss the fact that all the items they found in the puzzle are related to the importance of trees and maintaining the Earth’s natural resources
- Activity: Coloring Sheet
- Activity: Creative Writing
 - Pass out lined paper to all students
 - Instruct the students to write a poem or short story of their own that talks about the importance of trees and maintaining the Earth’s natural resources
- Art Activity: Sawdust Clay
 - Use the recipe and sawdust provided to create “sawdust clay”
 - Use cookie cutters to create sawdust clay figures
 - Sawdust clay figures can be painted after they dry

Note: You can upload the photos of your activity day, copies of poems, stories or coloring sheets to our FaceBook page at facebook.com/greenbynature. Select photos will be posted on our GreenBaliBlinds.com website. Photos of sawdust clay figures will also be accepted and posted on the site.

Conclusion:

Hand out stickers and one seed bookmark to each student to take home. The seed bookmark can be planted in their yard or a flower pot and will grow Black-Eyed Susans.

Word Search

Circle the words listed below. The words are in all directions — vertical, horizontal, diagonal and even backwards.

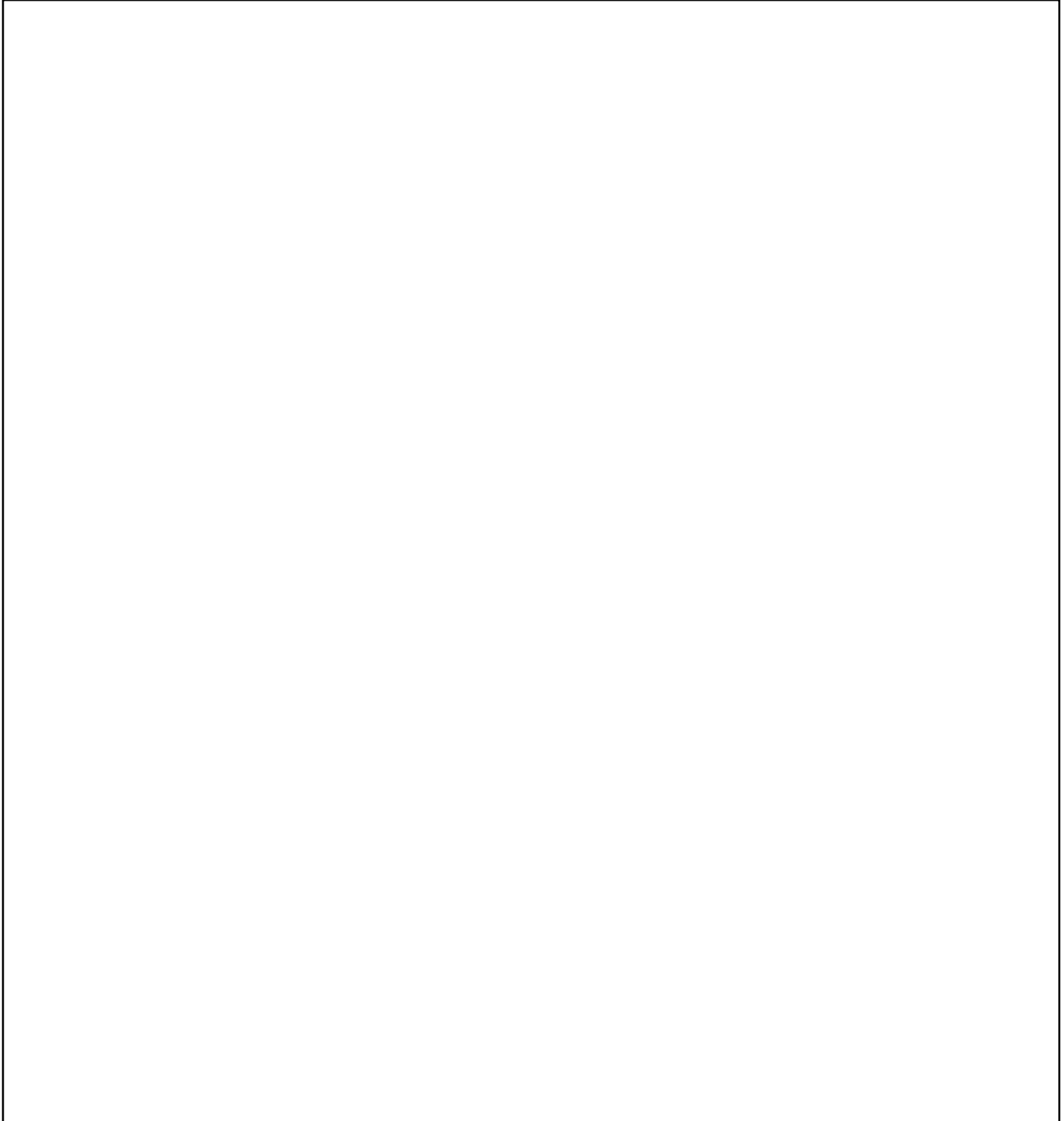
P	H	D	C	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E
A	L	A	B	H	P	W	U	R	M	N
T	A	E	A	R	T	H	A	X	A	E
R	E	Q	N	G	A	I	Y	R	V	R
E	A	E	A	T	A	O	A	E	A	G
E	W	O	O	D	S	A	R	U	B	Y
S	A	W	A	T	E	R	H	S	A	F
A	C	A	R	E	A	L	O	E	U	A
W	L	A	Z	T	U	A	M	A	A	N
A	E	W	E	L	P	O	E	P	M	F
I	A	A	W	O	R	L	D	D	A	N
R	N	P	L	A	N	T	S	O	I	L

- | | | | |
|-------|--------|---------|-------|
| AIR | ENERGY | RECYCLE | TREES |
| CARE | HOME | REUSE | WATER |
| CLEAN | PEOPLE | SOIL | WOOD |
| EARTH | PLANTS | SUN | WORLD |

Name: _____

What do we make from trees?

Draw as many things as you can think of that are made from trees. Look around your classroom for ideas.

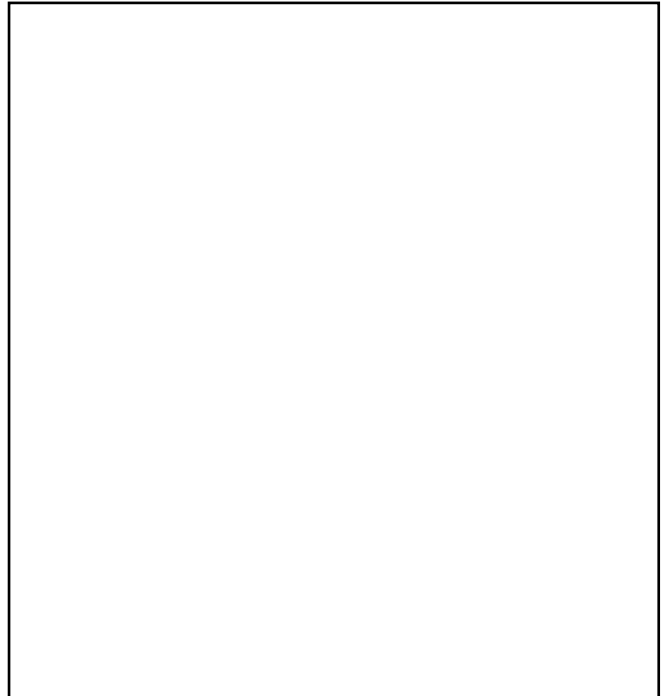


Name: _____

Write a Poem or Story

Write a poem or short story about the importance of trees and maintaining the Earth's natural resources.
Draw a picture to go with it.

Draw a picture below.



Picture Find

Color all the images in the picture that are made from trees.

