

Tree Identification

Created by Kathy Daniels, Weippe Elementary



Teachers at the Summer 2000 Teachers' Institute hug the Clark Tree near the Lolo Campground.

Objectives: Students will be able to identify eight species of pines that were documented by Lewis and Clark, and learn the importance of fire, water, and diseases with trees.

Materials:

- Samples of cones, bark, and needles of eight different trees
- Worksheet with common and scientific names to be completed at each station
- Blue, yellow, white, and red colored cards
- Study the journals of Lewis and Clark and note locations of different species (e.g. sub-alpine trees only grow in higher altitudes.)

Procedure: Study the journals and discuss the importance of the expedition's discoveries of new species of trees identified. Take a nature walk behind the school and sketch the different variety of trees and identify.

Activity: Tree survivor game. Distribute various colored cards on the ground. Have students stand on them. Teacher pulls out a colored card (blue) and anyone standing on that color must sit down. Explain how drought can kill trees. Continue with the color red. Anyone on a red card must sit down. Red represents fire and fires also kills trees. Yellow is the last card and this represents insects. An example of this is the red fir bark beetle that can wipe out a species of tree in an area if not eliminated. The people left standing on the white cards represent the only surviving trees.