



# ROCK EAGLE 4-H CENTER

## FOREST ECOLOGY

### VOCABULARY

#### ROCK EAGLE'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FIELD STUDY

- Bark:** the tough outer protective covering of the woody stems and roots of trees, shrubs, and other woody plants.
- Cambium:** one-cell thick layer of tissue between xylem and phloem in most vascular plants that is responsible for making more xylem and phloem.
- Decomposition:** the breakdown of organic matter (i.e. rotting, decaying).
- Dendrology:** the study of trees and other woody plants.
- Detritus:** dead organic matter and the accompanying decomposers feeding upon it.
- Erosion:** the wearing away of the soil due to the action of water, wind or ice.
- Habitat:** the environment in which an organism normally lives or occurs.
- Heartwood:** older inactive central wood of a tree or woody plant; old/non-conducting xylem cells
- Succession:** change in species composition and community structure over time
- Phloem:** Vascular tissue that conducts food throughout the plant
- Photosynthesis:** process through which green plants producing carbohydrates by combining carbon dioxide and water using light as an energy source and producing oxygen as a by-product.
- Xylem:** the woody part of plants that supports and conducts water from the roots to the leaves

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*Making the best better!*

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## PRE-POST ACTIVITIES

### Collage

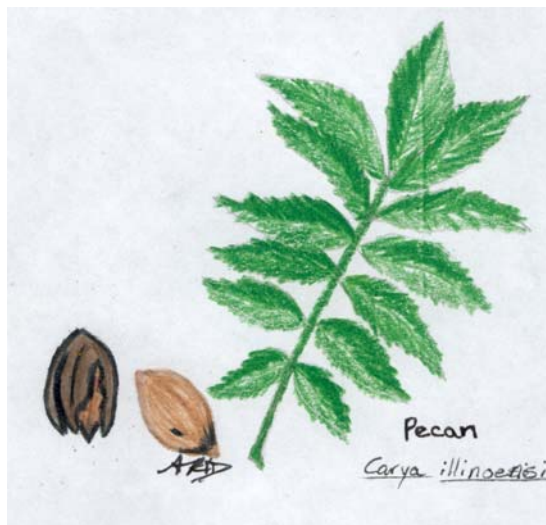
For K-4<sup>th</sup> grade. Have students look through magazines and newspapers for pictures or articles concerning the forest or trees. Create a collage with this information.

### Trees as Habitats (Project Learning Tree p. 70 Activity #22)

For 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up. Go out and examine a tree up close. Look under the bark, on the branches, leaves, and fruits for animal life and activity. Have students set up graphs or tables based on the things that they find.

### Leaf Collection

Create a leaf collection based on trees in your area. Dry and press leaves and laminate them. Have students create a key based on leaf characteristics and identify their trees.



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