



SYCAMORE

- A sycamore leaf can be up to 10 inches wide and has 3 – 5 distinct points.
- Sycamore trees produce a fruit that are achenes or dry balls that contain seeds. They are brown and spiky, while the inside contains small, fuzzy seeds. These fruits are called sycamore figs and are well loved by birds.
- One of the largest deciduous trees in America. They must be planted where they can have lots of space to grow.
- The bark appears patterned with different colors and looks similar to camouflage.



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WALNUT

- Walnut trees produce an edible fruit that we know as walnuts. Squirrels, birds, and deer eat these seeds!
- Walnut trees have a leaf pattern similar to a feather. Each leaf can have up to 23 smaller leaflets.
- One tree can produce walnuts for more than 100 years.
- Walnuts are used in soaps as an exfoliator.
- Walnut trees produce the oldest tree food known to mankind, walnuts.
- Walnut wood is very strong and is used to make intricate carvings.
- They have smooth brown bark that becomes more gray with age.
- Their flowers appear in late spring and look like small green beads. These flowers are wind pollinating, meaning they don't rely on pollinators to reproduce.
- They won't have the same bright colors as other flowers because they don't need to attract pollinators.



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HICKORY

- A hickory leaf has up to 17 pointed leaflets with sawlike edges.
- Hickory trees have dark brown bark that peels upward off the tree.
- They produce a hard-shelled edible nut that can be as big as a golf ball. It splits into four sections to release this fruit.
- Hickory nuts are considered a drupe which is a fruit with a fleshy outside that covers a single seed or pit inside. A great example of a drupe is a peach!
- Forest animals such as woodpeckers, chipmunks, beavers, mice and deer love hickory nuts, leaves, and bark.
- Hickories are in the walnut family.
- They bloom during the spring producing long vines with small green pods. These flowers are wind pollinating, meaning they don't rely on pollinators to reproduce.



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CATALPA

- A catalpa leaf is heart shaped with smooth edges. It is very large and can be up to 12 inches long.
- The tree produces bundles of bright, white flowers in late spring to early summer. They look like ruffled bells.
- After the flowers fall, the tree produces long seed pods. They are dark green and turn brown in the fall. Some fall off but many stay on the tree throughout winter and then open in the spring to release their seeds.
- These flowers are perfect for pollinators. Their fragrance and nectar is very attractive to bees.
- A very adaptable tree that can be planted almost anywhere. However they require a good amount of space as they can grow very large.



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A circular graphic with a teal background. It features large, heart-shaped green leaves with serrated edges at the top and bottom. In the center-left, there is a dark green silhouette of a cottonwood tree. The word "COTTONWOOD" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the top half of the circle.

COTTONWOOD

- A cottonwood leaf is heart shaped and has saw-like edges.
- They produce small green pods filled with the fluffy white seeds that get spread by the wind.
- They require full sun to grow.
- One of the fastest growing trees at a rate of about 6 ft per year.
- Cottonwood trees require lots of water. They can use up to 200 gallons of water a day while oaks can only get about 50 gallons of water.
- They tend to grow close to wetter areas for easier access to water.



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OAK

- Oaks produce a fruit known as acorns. They appear green in the spring and turn brown in the fall when birds, mice, and squirrels enjoy eating them!
- Oak trees have lobed leaves that can be rounded or sharp depending on the species.
- The oak is the national tree of the United States.
- Have a life span of 150 – 250 years but there are some that are over 1,000 years old.
- There are two different families of oaks: White oaks have rounded lobes and produce acorns every year, while those in the red oak group have pointed lobes and produce acorns every two years.
- White oaks include white, bur, and chinquapin oaks while red oaks include red, black, and pin oak.
- Oaks have the essential role of providing food and habitat to many animals.
- They are called a “keystone” species because of their foundational role in the ecosystem.
- Oak’s are a hardwood species meaning the wood is strong and perfect for building furniture.



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