



## Best Tree Forever: 2nd-5th Grade Guided Field Trip

Thank you for choosing Hoyt Arboretum for your school field trip! This field trip uses inquiry-based methods to introduce your students to tree structures and their functions. Our goal is to have students use their senses to engage with the environment and connect with trees, wherever they may be. Second through fifth grade groups will leave Hoyt Arboretum with a deep understanding of a native tree species or Best Tree Forever (BTF) that can be recognized all over the greater Portland area. This field trip is 90 minutes long.

Hoyt Arboretum Friends has created this program to follow Oregon's Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). We have implemented the following Disciplinary core ideas and Performance expectations into our **Best Tree Forever** field trip, to help support your in-school learning.

- *Disciplinary Core Ideas:*
  - **LS1.A: Structure and Function**
  - **LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms**
  - **LS1.C: Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms**
  - **LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems**
- *Performance Expectations:*
  - **K-LS1-1, 1-LS1-1, 2-LS2-2, 3-LS1-1, 4-LS1-1, 5-LS1-1.**





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### *Best Tree Forever (BTF) Field Trip Activities*

Below are the experiential activities that could take place on the field trip. Please be advised that every field trip is variable, and our nature educators are encouraged to alter the direction of learning, based on the questions and curiosities the students may have. Students will use observation skills and movement, to learn about concepts of seed dispersal, deciduous vs. coniferous, tree life cycles, interrelationships of an ecosystem and the inner layers of a tree trunk.

#### **1. Introduction to Tree Signs:**

- Students will learn how to read each of the tree signs at the Hoyt Arboretum and will be introduced to reading Latin scientific names.

#### **2. Mystery Bag**

- Students will learn about the difference between deciduous and coniferous trees, by using their sense of touch, smell and observation skills.

#### **3. Squirrely Seeds**

- Students will understand the importance of wildlife and how they help with seed dispersal.

#### **4. Best Tree Forever (BTF)**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will identify the interrelationships of their BTF tree and other living organisms.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade will identify and recognize their BTF's life cycle and work together as teams to find examples of these stages.
- 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will look at the inside of a tree trunk and understand each of the different layers by acting out new cell growth and how water and nutrients move throughout the tree. They can also choose to learn about the different layers of the forest.

### *Best Tree Forever Certificate (Optional)*

Please print a **Best Tree Forever (BTF) Certificate** so that your students can reconnect with their tree back in the classroom. The certificate and additional pre- and post-activities can also be found on our [website](#).

*Thank you for your interest in Hoyt Arboretum Education Programs. If you have any questions please contact our Youth Programs Manager at [youtheducation@hoytarboretum.org](mailto:youtheducation@hoytarboretum.org).*

