



# TELL A TREE BY ITS BARK

Go outside in an area where there are different kinds of trees.  
Then follow the steps below. You'll discover how bark can help you tell  
one kind of tree from another.

## Keep a Record!

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Weather \_\_\_\_\_

## Helpful Things to Take Along

Crayon with wrapper removed

Field guide on trees

- 1 Select a tree. Look at its bark carefully. What color(s) do you see?

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- 2 Now touch the bark. How does it feel? (Is it bumpy, smooth, flaky, shredded, thorny, or something else?)

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- 3 In the box below, do a crayon rubbing of the bark.

- 4 What kind of patterns do you see in the bark? (Are there lines, ridges, puzzle pieces, or something else?)

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- 5 What kind of tree does this bark belong to? (Use a field guide to help you.)

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