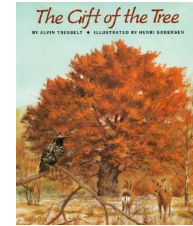





Unit 4: Our Earth  
**Week 2**

Dear Families,

This week children are learning about how people, animals, and plants impact the environment. We are reading ***The Gift of the Tree*** by Alvin Tresselt. You can find this and other books you might enjoy at the library. Two of this week’s vocabulary words are *nourishment* and *weak*.



This week with your child, try a couple of the activities—or you can do them all! You can attach another page for drawing, writing stories, or anything else you’d like to share. Please help your child return this sheet to school at the end of the week. We hope you enjoy learning together.

<p><b>Gross Motor: Trees</b></p> <p>Invite your child to pretend to be a tree (feet = roots, legs and body = trunk, arms = branches, hands = leaves).</p> <p>Ask them to show how they would move if the wind was strong or gentle. Ask them what parts of their body would they move to show this.</p>	<p><b>Shared Reading (on next page)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invite your child to point while you read aloud.</li> <li>2. Point to the word <b>the</b> and read it. Ask what sound is at the beginning. (/th/)</li> <li>3. Ask your child to find another <b>the</b> in the poem, and to circle it and read it.</li> <li>4. Ask your child to find other words in the poem that begin with <b>th</b>. Read those words together.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Talk about it</b></p> <p>We read the book <b><i>The Gift of the Tree</i></b>. Ask your child to draw a picture of the tree as it looks at the beginning of the story and then as it looks at the end. Ask them to describe the changes and what made them happen.</p>	<p><b>Read together!</b></p> <p>at least 20 minutes every day</p>	<p><b>Play with math ideas: Story Problem</b></p> <p>Read this problem to your child. Have your child draw to solve the problem and then write an equation. Reread the problem as needed.</p> <p><i>Ahmed had 10 crayons. Some were red and some were blue. How many of each could he have?</i></p>
<p><b>Explore science and engineering: Parts of a Tree</b></p> <p>Collect parts of a tree (leaves, twigs, pieces of bark).</p> <p>What do you notice about these parts of trees? Are they large or small? rough or smooth? What colors do they have? Sort the parts into categories.</p>	<p><b>Play with sounds to grow a reader</b></p> <p>Write each of these on a small piece of paper: <b>sh, ch, o, u, p, g, t</b>. Use them to make each word listed below. Have your child tap each sound, then put the sounds together to make a word. Remind your child that <b>ch</b> and <b>sh</b> are digraphs—two letters that make one sound—and that a digraph gets one tap.</p> <p><b>/sh/-/u/-/t/</b> → shut      <b>/ch/-/o/-/p/</b> → chop  <b>/sh/-/o/-/p/</b> → shop      <b>/ch/-/u/-/g/</b> → chug</p> 	



Use any other paper to make a drawing, write down a story, or share any adventures you have had together. The other children in our classroom community will love to know about them! You can also always send a note to the children or teachers in the classroom.

### Family Response

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_

Who tried the Family Links activities together this week?

Which activities did you enjoy? Was any activity challenging? Why?

### Shared Reading

#### Five Little Seeds

Five little seeds,  
What will they be?

Under the land,  
Under rocks and sand,

Five little seeds,  
Wait patiently!

The sun fills the sky,  
Rain drips from high,

Roots grow into the ground,  
Stems grow upward bound!

Five little seeds,  
What will they be?

Three will make trees,  
And two will make weeds,

That's what the seeds will be!