

COMMUNITIES NEED TREES

Part 1: Trees are important for many reasons. Find out more by using the vocabulary words in this box to fill in the blanks in the paragraph below.

Word Box							
vapor	oxygen	ecosystems	filter	remove	climate	shade	Earth

Trees aren't just a great place for a picnic. They strengthen _____ by **stabilizing** the ground, providing _____, filtering water and air, and **reducing** _____ change. Tree **roots** grip the ground, **preventing** it from washing away during **rainstorms** or floods. In addition, as rain falls, the roots _____ **pollutants** from the water. As trees "breathe" through the **stomata** in their leaves or needles, they _____ **carbon dioxide** from the air, absorbing it and releasing oxygen. Excess water _____ is also **released**, cooling the air. Trees also provide _____ that cools the Earth, animals, and humans. Trees are a **vital** part of life on _____.

Part 2: Read the paragraph again. Find the words in **bold** and circle them in the word search right.

R	V	I	T	A	L	A	F	G	Q	Z	C	U	R	P
E	E	B	E	Q	I	R	T	E	I	F	W	A	G	D
D	O	D	C	H	E	O	R	A	G	J	I	J	E	L
I	N	A	U	U	V	O	U	Y	M	N	Y	S	U	C
X	V	X	N	C	Q	T	W	K	S	O	A	D	G	T
O	P	N	U	V	I	S	Q	T	G	E	T	H	B	K
I	R	Z	E	F	M	N	O	N	L	Y	U	S	R	L
D	E	A	S	W	M	R	G	E	G	Q	K	R	A	V
N	V	A	X	F	M	I	R	Y	M	Z	H	X	V	Y
O	E	E	T	S	T	N	A	T	U	L	L	O	P	Y
B	N	G	Y	J	Z	O	G	Z	K	R	N	Z	A	V
R	T	S	K	S	H	M	H	Y	M	Y	P	K	T	S
A	I	H	U	F	O	H	X	L	B	I	U	N	O	K
C	N	S	T	A	B	I	L	I	Z	I	N	G	G	B
Y	G	S	P	R	U	G	R	F	W	A	Q	K	B	Q



Families: Go for a walk and identify favorite trees in your community. You can use the fun Arbor Day tree identification tool found at www.arborday.org/trees/whattree/. But before you look up the trees, challenge yourself to name as many types of trees as you can.