



Basswood Tree

Sapling Activity
Leaf print and poem.

Did you know the small yellowish flowers are a favorite source of nectar for honeybees?

Photo by www.essences.ca/page_01.htm

Materials:

- Construction Paper
- White paper
- Leafs
- Paint
- Foam tray
- Sponge
- Glue
- Tell Me, Tree by Gail Gibbons
- The Tree by Judy Hindly

Procedure:

- Read Tell Me, Tree, and look at some of the poems in The Tree.
- Go out to the Basswood tree and collect some leaves.
- Put your nose to the tree and feel the bark.
- Take a few steps back and look at the tree. Pick out characteristics of the tree. Things to notice would be; the smell, color, and characteristics of the tree, branches, leaves, and all that you see.
- Walk back a few more steps and look at the characteristics of the tree from that distance.
- Then write your thoughts down as soon as you can.
- Put paint in foam trays.
- Using the sponge apply paint to the backside of the leaf that has the veins raised.
- On the top of a white piece of paper, press the leaf on. Put a piece of paper over the leaf and press down. You may make more than one print.
- Carefully remove paper and leaf.
- Under the print, write a poem about the basswood using descriptive words that you wrote down when observing your tree. The Tree book may give you some ideas.
- Glue the white paper on the center of construction paper for a beautiful border.
- Remember to sign it.

