# **Wood** You Like to Know About the Ginkgo?

## Leaf Investigation

A tree activity for **Saplings** (Children ages 8-11)



## Did you know?

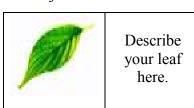
- ➤ The Ginkgo tree has been around for 350 million years?
- ➤ The lifespan of a single Ginkgo tree is up to 1,000 years?
- ➤ The Ginkgo's leaves turn bright yellow in autumn?

#### **Materials Needed:**

- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Crayons
- ✓ Markers
- ✓ Tape

### **Activity:**

- 1.) Fold the length of the paper in half. Fold it in half once more so that it opens like a small book.
- 2.) To begin, look on the ground around the tree for a leaf that has fallen from the branches. If there is not one on the ground, pick one off the tree.
- 3.) On the front cover of the book write the name of the tree. Trace the outside of the leaf with a pencil and color in the shape.
  - Be sure to notice the shape of the leaf and compare it to other leaves you have seen. How does it look in comparison?
- 4.) On the left inside page, put the leaf in between the fold of the paper and make a rubbing of the leaf using a crayon to capture the details of the leaf on the paper.
  - ➤ Be sure to notice the vein pattern. What does it look like?
- 5.) On the right inside page, write about the leaf you found. Be sure to include words that describe the size, color, and shape of the leaf.
- 6.) Tape the leaf to the back of the book. Be sure to write your name and the date on the leaf investigation book you have just created!



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