

Sugar Maple Tree



Photo by Matt Hajdun

Did you know that the Sugar Maple Tree can reach heights of 130 feet or more and live to be very old.

Activity for Saplings Story of a Sugar Maple

Materials:

- **White paper**
- **Paints**
- **Sponges**
- **Foam trays**
- **Markers or pencils**
- **Scrap paper**

Tell Me, Tree by Gail Gibbons

The Big Tree by Bruce Hiscock

Procedure:

- **Before you come to St. Michael's read The Big Tree.**
- **Read Tell Me, Tree.**
- **Collect a few Sugar Maple leaves from the tree.**
- **Look at the tree and the surroundings while you visit the tree.**
- **Set up the foam tray and put a generous amount of paint in it. You can use one color or many.**
- **Apply paint to the sponge and dab on a scrape piece of paper.**
- **Put leaf on a white piece of paper.**
- **Hold the leaf steady.**
- **Use the sponge to apply paint on the outside of the leaf.**
- **You may make many prints or just one.**
- **Attach a few sheets of blank paper on the back of your painting to write a book of your own.**
- **You may want to describe where the Sugar Maple at St. Michael's is.**
- **You can write about how it has grown through the years or what it sees on a daily basis. (Where is it located, perhaps students study under the tree, different students every year. Or if you may write about Maple Syrup and Vermont)**
- **Make sure to give your story a title and author.**