The Tamarack is one of the only cone bearing trees that loses its needles. It can live in harsh areas, such as in bogs and on mountaintops. If the Tamarack lives in a bog or on top of a mountain, it doesn’t grow very tall, however the one on campus is very tall. The tree’s height changes based on the area where it lives.

Activity:
- Sit down under the Tamarack tree. Put together the puzzle of the tree.
- Now move away from the tree so that you can see the whole thing. Draw a picture of what they see based on the puzzle, and the tree. You should think about what the needles, cones, bark, trunk, and branches look like. Look for any insects or animals near the tree.
- When you are finished, label the different parts of the tree.

Label:
- Needles
- Bark
- Branches
- Roots
- Cones
- Any other interesting features?
- Trunk

Other things to think about:
- What would this Tamarack look like in January? (It would have fewer needles.)
- What would the Tamarack look like on top of a mountain or in a bog? (Much shorter than the one on campus.)

Materials:
- Tamarack Puzzle
- Paper
- Pencil
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers