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.