

The Wisconsin Tree

Supplies Needed:

Umbrella	Markers	Gloves
Paper Leaves	Rope	Paper or real seeds
Small pieces of wood	Hat	Syrup
Yarn	Artificial flowers	Tape and Velcro
Paper bag	Plastic fruit	

Trees are an important part of Wisconsin agriculture and natural resources.

Wisconsin's 15.7 million acres of forestland cover nearly half of the state. You might be surprised that individuals and families hold the largest portion (57%). About 260,000 private, non-industrial landowners care for 9.7 million acres of woodland in Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin, 81% of people live in cities, villages, and urban townships. An urban forest is all of the plants and animals in a city, village, or town. Trees in yards, along streets, and in parks all are part of an urban forest. The importance of urban forests is often overlooked.

There are many other commodities that are important in Wisconsin. Wisconsin is one of the most diverse agricultural production states in the nation, producing a variety of dairy, livestock, vegetables, crops, and nursery stock. Wisconsin's climate, natural resources, agribusiness infrastructure and farm heritage keep Wisconsin one of the top ten ag states in the nation.

Part One- Tree Parts- Dress a Student up as a Tree

- Leaves- an umbrella with paper leaves attached to it by tape or velcro
- Wood- a small piece of wood with a long string attached to wear as a necklace
- Bark- a vest made from a grocery bag, decorated with squiggly lines to resemble patterned bark
- Roots- rope tied together at different lengths with knots in it tied at the students feet
- Flowers – a headband decorated with various flowers (can be made from pipe cleaners, plastic flowers, or silk flowers)
- Fruit - fruit shapes cut out of construction paper or use plastic models. Tie them with string and loop them over the student's outstretched arms.
- Seeds- gloves with paper cut outs of seeds. Or use plastic type glove and glue actual seeds on it.
- Sap- have a maple syrup jug or use two jugs of water to shake

Part Two- Wisconsin Commodities Information

- <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/> Wisconsin Ag Statistics website for commodity information
- Commodities to discuss- apples, cherries, pears, maple syrup, floriculture industry, forestry (woodland, school and urban) and wood by-products