



# primarily for us\*

Grades K-3

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Special Issue - A Poem for Arbor Day



February 18 is Arbor Day in Georgia... a good time to think about planting a beautiful, little tree in your neighborhood.

If you plant a tree this year and care for it, it will grow and do wonderful things in return!



# I Planted a Tree, Just For Me!

(A Tree Poem)



I planted such a little tree  
When I was very small.  
In just one year it outgrew me  
And kept on growing tall!

Soon it reached toward the sky  
With green leaves everywhere,  
Beneath it in the shade I'd lie  
And breathe the clean, fresh air.



Lizards, spiders, snails and slugs  
Lived upon the bark  
Birds would dine on tiny bugs  
From morning until dark.





When fall leaves turned  
to orange and gold  
The squirrels worked  
extra hard.

Their nest of leaves  
Kept out the cold  
When snow fell on my yard.

The tree brought wildlife  
to my street

And shade, and clean, fresh air.  
It cooled me in the summer heat  
So I gave it special care.

I watered it when weeks were dry  
And never allowed a nail.

No one ever asked me why  
I protected it without fail.





As years went by, my tree grew tall  
And strong as strong can be.  
My tree was loved by one and all,  
But especially by me.



When I felt mad, alone or down  
I'd hide up in my tree.  
I'd climb way up and look around  
As far as I could see.

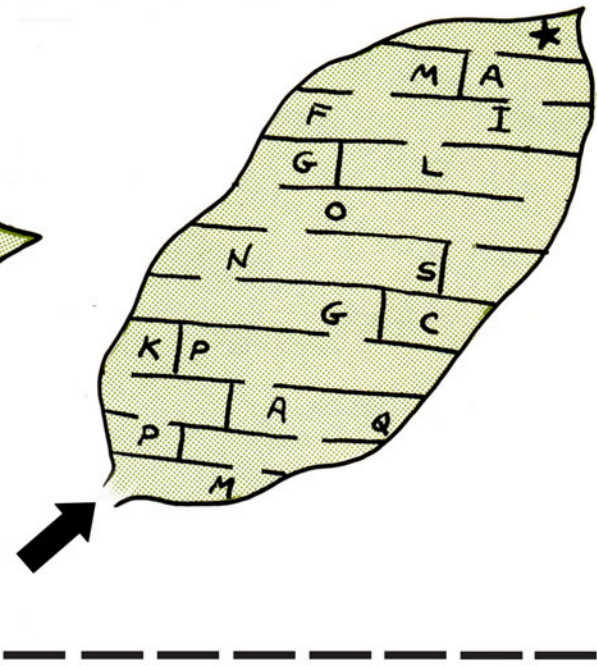
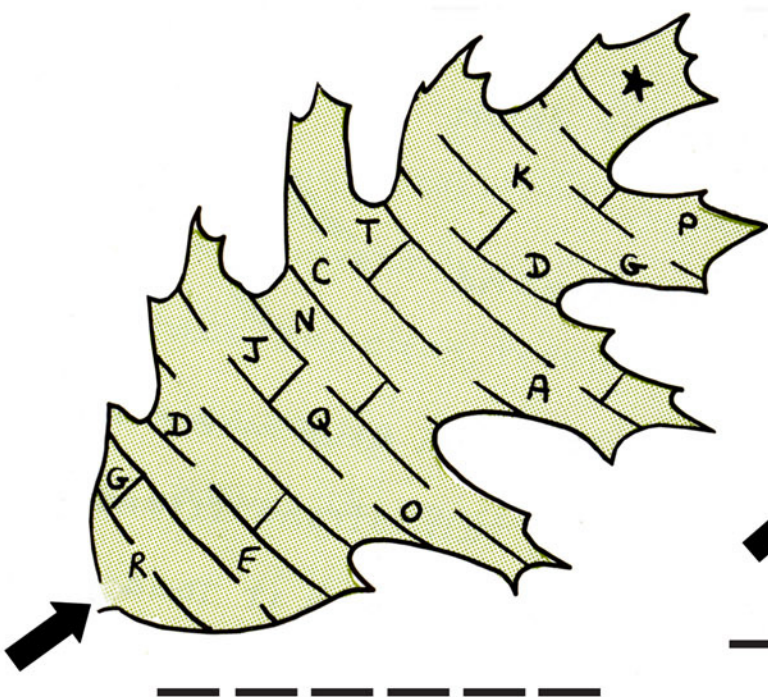
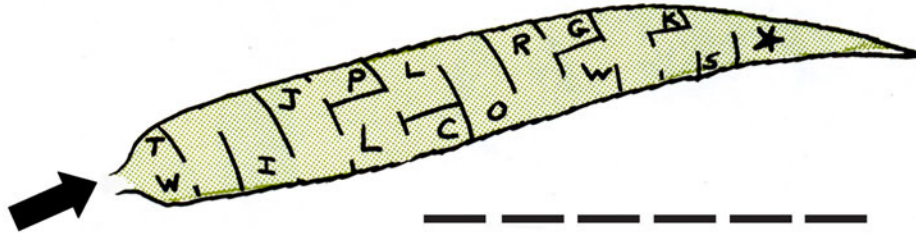


Now that I've grown and moved away  
I still love my tall, strong friend.  
Other kids play beneath it today  
Chasing leaves in the wind.

And all because I planted a seed  
When I was just a kid.  
How proud I am of that good deed.  
It's the best one I ever did!

Find the names of these leaves.

1. Draw a line from the → to the ★ in each. Take the shortest path. Do not cross lines.
2. Write the letters you pass over in order in the blanks below.



- Choose a tree in your yard at home or at your school.
- Write a poem about the tree.
- Make a drawing to illustrate your poem.

Color Smokey and join Fernbank in wishing this famous tree protector a very happy birthday!



Primarily for US\* was written and illustrated by Judy Cutchins.

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