



A Lesson Plan Grade 3-5

But Why is led by you, kids! Kids all over the world send us questions, and we find the answers. We've created these learning units to be used in a classroom setting or at home. Watch the video first and then use this guide to deepen your understanding of what you've learned. Find more episodes at butwhykids.org.



But Why: Adventures! Northeast Nature | MARCH: SAP

DRIVING QUESTION:

How does nature drive the culture of a place and its people?

Objectives: Students will

- Learn how syrup is made from the sap in trees.
- Be able to identify how nature influences culture and why it is important.

Activities:

1. Take a nature walk outside and identify the types of trees in your community.
2. Allow time to have students draw the different trees in your school community. Use notebooks for this activity.
3. Talk about the cultural relevance of community, economy and connections around this sugaring process.

VELS (K-3): SC 2:1, SS 5:1 | Learning Targets: Grades 3-5

C3

D2.Eco.3.3-5

D2.Eco.10.3-5



BUT WHY

Watch & Connect

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WATCH & CONNECT:

**Draw or write
in the boxes.**



K (Know). What do you know about making maple syrup?

W (Want to know). What do you want to know about making maple syrup?

L (Learn). What did you learn about making maple syrup?





Watch & Doodle

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WATCH & DOODLE:

In the video, we see how to tap a tree and connect it to the line. Cut out the blocks below and put the different kinds of lines in the right order. How would you get the sap back to the main house? The answer key is on the bottom of the last page.

Lateral lines	Drop lines	Main line
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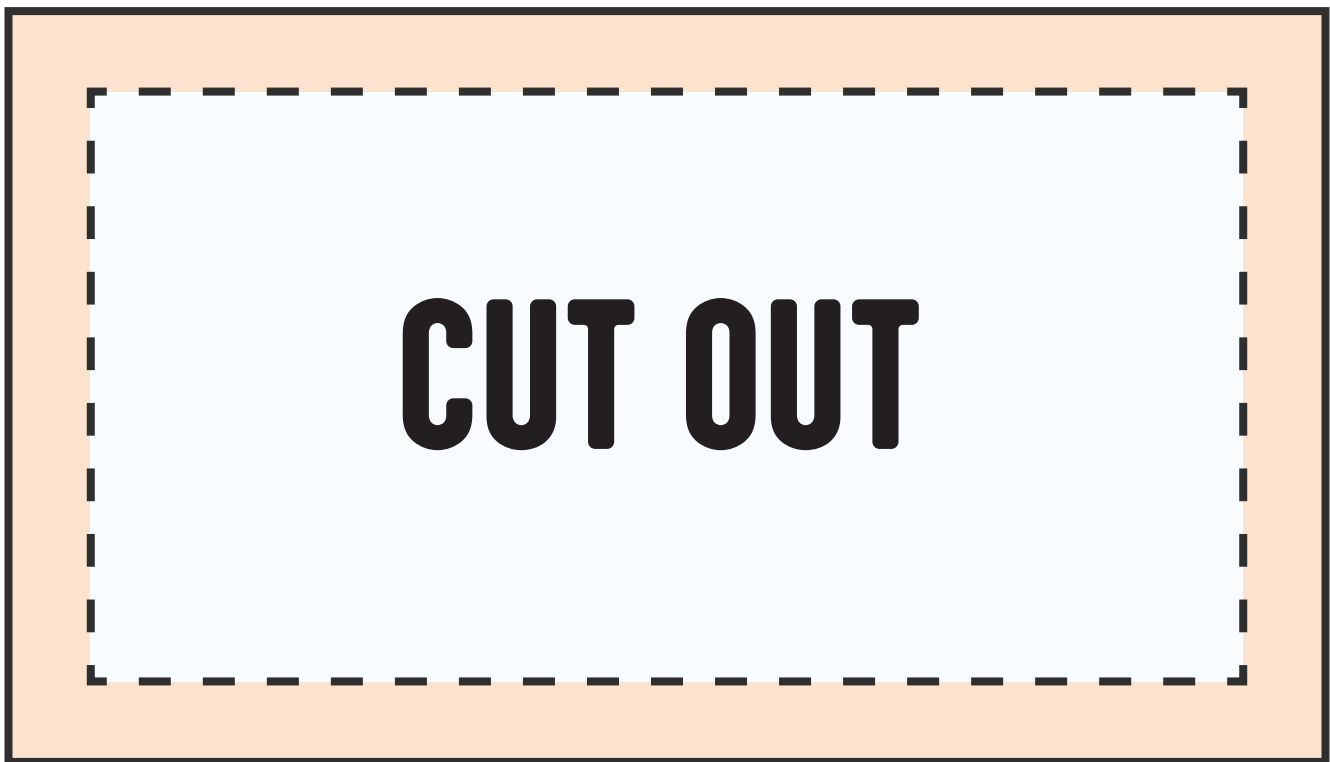
View Finder

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VIEW FINDER: Cut out the view finder— hold it up to your favorite tree. Take time to look closely at all of the details that make this tree unique. What do you see?



Trees protect us, and we need to protect them. **Do you have a favorite tree?**



BUT WHY

Feelings: Connections

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SOCIAL EMOTIONAL CONNECTIONS: We are all connected.



Read and reflect:

Sugaring is something people in the Northeast look forward to all year. Many sugaring operations have been in families for a very long time. European settlers learned to sugar from Native Americans. The process of tapping maple trees and producing maple syrup can cultivate a sense of appreciation for nature's gifts and gratitude for the resources provided by our trees.

Now, draw a tree:



First, draw the top of your tree.

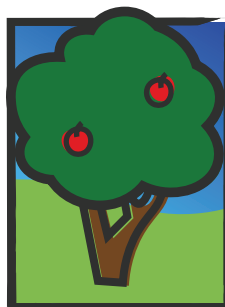


Then, add the trunk of the tree.

Apple tree:

Your own example:

Trees you might find in your neighborhood.





Community: Connections

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BIG IDEA: Trees are vital to us for all kinds of economic and environmental reasons. They help keep our air breathable. They give us shade. They feed us. And we harvest their resources for all kinds of things from paper to rubber to syrup!

My tree: Choose your favorite tree.

What kind of tree is it?

What makes this tree special?

Add detail: Find out more about ways that people in your region interact with this kind of tree (economy, community, celebration). Interview a teacher or adult who has lived in your area their whole life.

Finally, videotape a selfie/narration with your tree.



Draw your tree:

BONUS: Try making a bark rubbing. Hold a piece of paper up to the trunk of a tree. Rub a crayon held longways (take the paper wrapper off) on top of the paper to see the texture of the bark emerge!



Sap

[sap] • *noun*

A liquid that carries water, minerals and nutrients throughout a plant.



Cohesion

[koh-HEE-zjun] • *noun*

The attraction of similar molecules to each other. For example, water molecules like to stick together.



Adhesion

[add-HEE-zjun] • *noun*

The attraction of different molecules to one another. For example, water likes to stick to other surfaces and substances, not just itself.



Capillary action

[CAP-ill-air-ee ACK-shun] • *noun*

The ability of a liquid to flow up or sideways against the force of gravity, using the forces of cohesion, adhesion and surface tension, in a narrow space like a thin tube.

••• **What new words did you learn?** Make your own vocabulary cards. •••••

