

TERRIFIC TREES



Trees provide us with many products that we use in our everyday lives such as furniture, paper, fruits, chocolate, spices, cork, natural rubber, and so much more! But did you know that trees also help us by providing services that help our environment?



CLEAN WATER

Trees absorb rain through their roots and remove the pollutants it carries. Trees slow storm water runoff and prevent soil erosion, which can pollute waterways.



STORING CARBON

Trees act as carbon sinks and remove carbon dioxide from the air through pores in their leaves called stomata. One adult tree can absorb 48 pounds of carbon dioxide every year!



COOL TEMPERATURES

Trees cool the air around them by releasing water through their leaves in a process called transpiration. Trees also provide shade for buildings which can lower temperatures.



RELEASING OXYGEN

Trees use water, carbon dioxide, and energy from the sun to make their own food called glucose. This process is called photosynthesis. As they photosynthesize, trees release oxygen as waste.

KEEPING US COOL

Trees reduce the urban heat island effect in cities by deflecting the sun's radiant energy away from paved areas and buildings. Use a thermometer to measure the temperature above a concrete surface, a grassy area, and under a tree. Hold the thermometer 12 inches above the ground to measure air temperature. Keep track of daily temperatures in a journal.

