

Dear Family,

In my class today we talked about the different parts of a tree and made a family tree.

Did You Know?

- A tree is a large plant that has a long stem, or trunk, that support the leaves or needles and the branches. A tree also has roots that dig deep into the ground and provide the tree with nutrients and water that it absorbs upward. Some trees always have green leaves or needles and keep most of their leaves and needles all of the time; they are called evergreen trees. Other trees lose their leaves or needles every year, typically during the winter season. These trees are called deciduous trees.
- A family tree is typically a chart representing family relationships on a tree structure. Family trees are often presented with the oldest generations at the top and the newer generations at the bottom. An ancestry chart, which is also a tree, shows an individual's ancestors. Family trees can vary in who they include. They can include only immediate family members, or they can show many generations of family members.

Ask Your Child:

- Describe the parts of a tree.
- Tell me where the leaves grow on trees.
- Can you tell me the names of all the people on your family tree?
- Tell me how many people on you family tree are older than you. Can you name them?
- Explain where the roots are on a tree. Where are our family roots?

Activities To Do With Your Child:

- There are so many varieties of trees and bushes in each neighborhood and state. Go for a walk around your neighborhood or in a nearby park.
- Collect a variety of leaves from the trees and bushes that you see. Discuss the fact that even though they are all leaves, they look very different.
- Look through a family photo album and talk about the people who you see. Figure out how they fit into your family tree.

Vocabulary To Use With Your Child: branches, roots, leaves, stem, family tree, tree