

Supplies Needed:

- Leaf Scavenger Hunt cards (laminating recommended)
- Pencil/Pen/Washable Marker

Instructions:

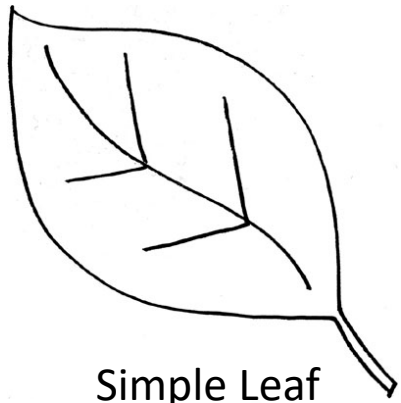
While hiking in the woods, it is common for youth to be curious about the natural world around them. Educators without a strong background in environmental science can still lead a basic tree identification activity, using the leaf scavenger hunt cards. It is recommended for the cards to be laminated and reused. Instruct youth not to pick/touch any of these items – simply observe them while walking in the woods.

Leaf Scavenger Hunt:

- Simple Leaf: a single, broad leaf
- Compound Leaf: a leaf consisting of multiple leaflets
- Needles: leaves that are long, narrow, appear to look like a needle (ex – pine tree)
- Scales: leaves that are short, cover one another like scales (ex – cedar tree)
- Opposite: leaves that are located directly across from each other on a tree branch
 - Note: there are very few opposite leaf trees. Using the acronym MAD Buc, you can remember, that Maple, Ash, Dogwood, and Buckeyes are all oppositely arranged.
- Alternate: leaves that are located alternately (every-other-leaf) from each other on a tree branch
- Toothed Margin: the edge of the leaf (margin) will be serrated with tiny teeth (not smooth)
- Smooth Margin: the edge of the leaf (margin) will not be serrated with tiny teeth (smooth)
- Acorn: the fruit of the oak, a smooth oval nut in a rough cuplike base. A true nut is a hard-shelled pod that contains both the fruit and seed of the plant, where the fruit does not open to release the seed to the world
- Cone: found on coniferous trees; contains the seeds
- Leaf with Lobes: leaves that are not rounded, but have indentions
- Seed Pod: protective covering that holds seeds

Developed By: Kasey Bozeman, Extension 4-H Specialist, 2020.

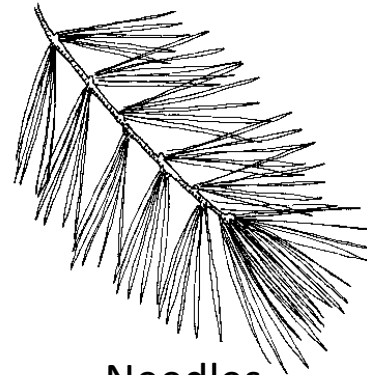




Simple Leaf



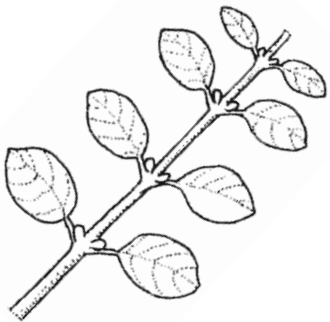
Compound Leaf



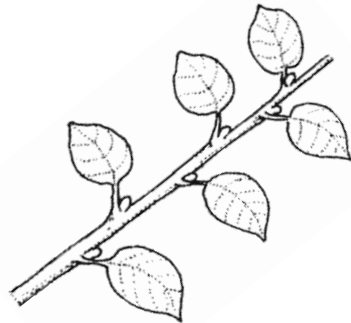
Needles



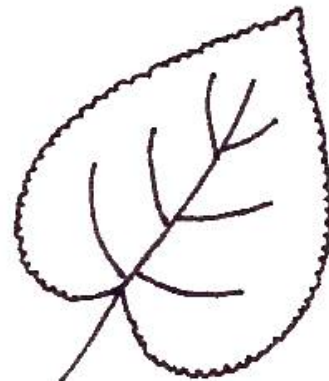
Scales



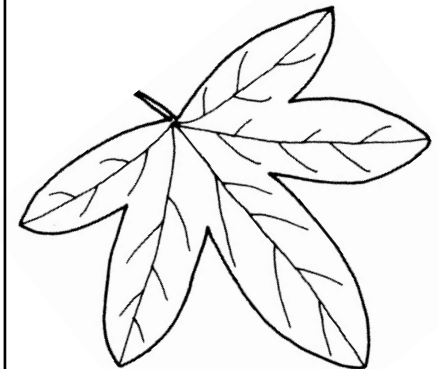
Opposite



Alternate



Toothed Margin



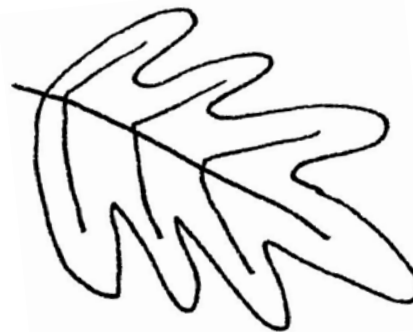
Smooth Margin



Acorn or Nut



Cone



Leaf with Lobes



Seed Pod