



Evergreen Trees

Evergreen Trees

Let's review what we learned about deciduous trees.

- **What are the two main types of trees?**
- **How are evergreen and deciduous trees different?**
- **What happens to the leaves of deciduous trees in the fall or autumn?**
- **Why do deciduous trees lose their leaves in the fall?**
- **When do deciduous trees begin to grow new leaves?**

Evergreen Trees

The main topic, or main idea, of today's lesson is evergreen trees. Listen carefully to learn about evergreen trees and to find out how they are different from deciduous trees.

Evergreen Trees



The trees in this picture are all **evergreen** trees.

Evergreen trees are similar and different to the deciduous trees you learned about earlier.

We use the word evergreen to describe plants that have leaves and stay green year-round.

Evergreen Trees



Evergreens come in a variety of shapes and sizes, but they all have at least one obvious thing in common: they are always green.

Do you remember what word is inside the word evergreen that helps us to know they are always green?

Evergreen Trees



One type of evergreen tree is called a pine tree. Pine trees have a pleasant smell, which many people like to have in their homes during the winter months.

Evergreen Trees



The leaves of most evergreen trees are called needles. Needles are very thin leaves. This picture shows the needles of a pine tree. Evergreen trees, like deciduous trees, make food through photosynthesis, which occurs in these tiny, needle leaves.

Evergreen Trees



Do you remember what photosynthesis is?

Photosynthesis slows down during the winter in evergreen trees, but it does not stop altogether as it does in deciduous trees. Because the needles of an evergreen tree are much smaller than the leaves of a deciduous tree, it is easier for the evergreen tree to make enough food to keep most of its leaves alive and on the tree all year long.

Evergreen Trees



Wherever you find evergreen trees, you are also likely to find these things scattered around on the ground. If you look up while standing under an evergreen tree, you might see some of these growing on the tree's branches. They are called cones.

Evergreen Trees



Here the word cones means the parts of some evergreen trees that contain the seeds. The word cones can have other meanings. The word cones also means shapes like ice cream cones.

Evergreen Trees



Most evergreen trees are called conifers, which is another word for trees that have needle-like leaves and make cones. The cones in this picture are called pine cones. Unlike deciduous trees, which have flowers and fruit, conifer trees do not have flowers and they do not grow fruit.

Evergreen Trees



Instead, conifer trees make cones, and seeds grow inside their cones. When a cone opens on the ground, the seeds fall out and are spread by the wind.

Why are seeds important?

Evergreen Trees



If a seed falls into the soil and has the right amount of food, water, air, and light, it might grow into a seedling and then a sapling.

Do you remember what a sapling is? (a baby tree)

Evergreen Trees



The first plants you will notice in this picture are ferns, which are not evergreens or trees. Ferns are short plants that grow in the woods. If you have sharp eyes, though you can see another type of plant in this picture. There is a little pine sapling--a baby tree--pushing its way through the ferns.

Evergreen Trees



If the sapling is tough--as many pine trees are--it will continue growing until it stands high above the ferns. It may grow big enough to produce its own pine cones one day. Remember that the seeds to make new pine trees are inside the cones.

Evergreen Trees



Did you know that a tree adds a new layer of wood each year? This new layer forms what is called a growth ring. When you cut down a tree, you can see the growth rings. You can tell exactly how old a tree is by counting the rings.

Evergreen Trees



How old do you think this tree is?

This tree was a little more than fifty years old, which is actually pretty young for a tree. If it hadn't been cut down, this tree might have lived to have a hundred or more growth rings!

Evergreen Trees



Remember, evergreen trees and deciduous trees are the two main types of trees found in the world. Next time you see a tree, try to figure out whether it is an evergreen or a deciduous tree. The leaves may give you your first clue.

Evergreen Trees

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

What is the main topic, or main idea, of today's read aloud?

Evergreen Trees

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What is an evergreen tree?

Evergreen Trees

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What important part of a plant is found in cones?

Evergreen Trees

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

What are the leaves of an evergreen called? Why are the needles of an evergreen important?

Evergreen Trees

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

How can you tell how old a tree is?

Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

Evergreen Trees

In the read aloud you heard, “Evergreen trees are similar and different to deciduous trees you learned about earlier.”

*Say the word **deciduous** with me. Now say the word **evergreen**.*

Evergreen Trees

If a plant is **deciduous**, it loses all of its leaves in the fall. If a plant is **evergreen**, it keeps some green leaves or needles all year long.

We can look at most trees and identify them as deciduous or evergreen.

Evergreen Trees

Have you ever seen deciduous trees or evergreen trees? Try to use the word deciduous and or evergreen when you tell about them and what they look like.

Evergreen Trees

*What are the words we have been
talking about?*

Let's clap them out.