Numeracy in Nature Instructional Guide

Grade level	Grade 3-4 (adaptations for K-2, 5)
Duration of lesson	45-60 minutes depending on the length of the walk to the trees
Math Concept(s)	Measurement & Data
Learning Targets and/or Standards	Measurement & Data: Generate measurement data by measuring lengths using rulers marked with halves and fourths of an inch.
Standards for Mathematical Practice in which learners will be engaged.	 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Reason abstractly and quantitatively. Model with mathematics. Use appropriate tools strategically. Attend to precision.
Mathematical Representations	 Visual Physical Contextual Symbolic Verbal Adapted from NCTM p. 25 Pictures, Diagrams, and Graphs Physical Concrete Objects and Manipulatives Contextual "Real-world" Symbolic Numbers and Symbols Contextual Terms
Drivers of Instruction	Making Sense of the World (Understand and Explain)
Materials and alternatives	Rope or Measuring TapesMeasuring Tools (yardsticks)



	Clipboards (or whiteboards)
	Paper and Pencil (or markers)
Lesson Activities	Slide Deck Show animation, Tree Growing (Notice and Wonder)
Talk moves/Purposeful Questions	 Why would we want to estimate a tree's age by measuring versus counting the rings? We have meter sticks and rope. How can we measure the circumference? Why do you think we need to measure the girth of the tree at the height of 4.5 feet?
Formative Assessment Strategies	 Observe how students are measuring. Listen to conversations: Are students able to make the tables to make reasonable estimates? Are there any tangles/errors to address as a full group? After: How does each student do on the independent exit ticket? [Give a circumference, ask for the age, Give an Age, ask for the circumference]
Adaptations	 Grade 5-6: have students solve for the age using the growth factor (no age tables). K-2 Find a tree the age of (ie arm span, span of a number of hands) Can prepare over the course of a few days by cutting rope the length of student;s arm span or the length of a number of hand spans.
	https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/media/688308/activities-tree-measuring.pdf



Opportunities for interdisciplinary connections	• Science •
Lesson Creators	MMSA, adapted from NCTM Activity Adapted from Tree Talk, NCTM Illuminations https://www.nctm.org/Classroom-Resources/Illuminations/Lessons/Tree-Talk/ Maine Trre Data gathered from https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/publications/handbooks_guides/forest_trees/individual_spp_index.html

