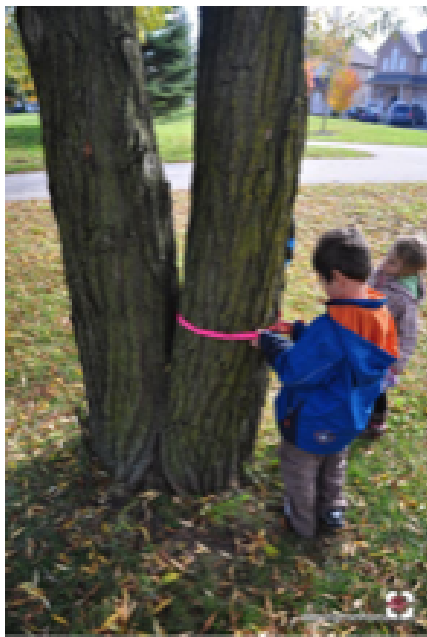


Measure How Big the Tree Trunk Grew



Materials: String or Yarn

Steps:

- Take string or yarn and go on an adventure to measure how big the trees in your neighborhood have grown.
- Help your child hold one end of the string while you wrap the string around the tree.
- Show them how to measure by telling them, “where they hold the yarn is very important. That is where our special information is.”

- Hold the spot or cut the string to see how thick your tree is.
- Step back and look at the string. Say, "We have just measured how thick the tree is. I wonder how thick the other tree is. Would you like to help me compare?"
- Repeat the process with a new string.
- Compare the lengths of the strings. Which tree is thicker? How do you know? Lets look at the strings next to each other. What do you notice? Which string is longer? Which string is shorter? What does that tell us about the trunks?

Extension: You can measure more trees and compare many trunks. Use words to describe the lengths; long, longer, short, shorter, thick, thicker, thin, thinner.

Extension: Scientists know the age of trees by measuring the trunk of a tree. If the tree is thick it is older than a thinner tree (of the same type of tree). Tell you child, "Did you know scientists measure trees to know how thick they are. They learn a lot from measuring. They measure how old the tree is. From the trees we measured, which tree do you think is older? (the ticker one is older (considering they are the same type of tree) because it had more time to grow.) Why do you think that?