



Coloring page courtesy of California Women in Timber

I gave the Earth a tree
Because the forest gives to me
Peaceful places and wildlife galore.
Splendiferous spaces to enjoy and explore
And wooden things that I use everyday.
I'm thanking the trees in my own special way.

The
Roots
of
Arbor
Day

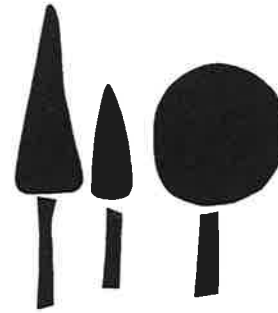
"Other holidays repose upon the past; Arbor Day proposes for the future." J. Sterling Morton

Arbor Day was the idea of J. Sterling Morton. In 1872 Morton helped start a new holiday in Nebraska dedicated to tree planting and environmental stewardship. It's estimated that more than 1 million trees were planted on the first Arbor Day. Morton's idea quickly spread. Arbor Day is now celebrated in all 50 states and many countries. Actual dates of the event vary depending on planting times. Idaho celebrates Arbor Day the last Friday of April each year, the same date as National Arbor Day.

SPELL IT OUT!

Ideas for observing ARBOR DAY

- A**pplaud trees for all the benefits they provide. Make a class list of all the ways trees help us and other living things. Which class can make the longest list?
- R**ead a book about trees. Then share it with someone else.
- B**e a tree friend. Visit the trees in your school yard. Do any show signs of damage? How can your class help them be healthy and happy?
- O**rganize a trip to a forest, sawmill, nursery or arboretum.
- R**esearch the history of Arbor Day. How does Morton's message of stewardship relate to us today?
- D**esignate the month of April to studying trees. Do tree math, learn about trees of other cultures throughout history, study the science of how trees grow, learn about careers involving trees, sing about trees, create tree art!
- A**rrange for a forester to visit with your class.
- Y**ou and your class can make a difference! Plant a tree and take especially good care of it.



(Chorus)
Arbor Day, Arbor Day, Arbor Day is here,
Plant a tree, watch it grow bigger every year, hey!
Sun and soil, water too, this is all it needs,
To grow a mighty forest from a little pack of seeds.

Look around you now, can you see a tree?
Did you know that trees can give much more than greenery?
Fruit and nuts to eat, shelter from the storm,
Wood for paper, books to read,
And fire wood keeps us warm, hey! (Repeat Chorus)

Tune: "Jingle Bells"
Lyrics courtesy of Sally Baker, Victorian State Schools Nursery, Australia

Idaho Forest Products Commission & Project Learning Tree
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