Student: Sofia Yengst 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Homeschool Boise, Idaho

Teacher: S.J. Yengst

## What Math taught me about Trees

This week, while I was working on my math I started getting frustrated looking at a full page of four-digit subtraction problems so I tossed my pencil across the room. As I walked across the room it dawned on me that my paper and pencil are made from trees like the ones growing in my backyard.

I decided to start counting all the things made from trees in my house as a distraction from my school work. Tables, chairs, kitchen cabinets, cutting board, wooden spoons, paper towels and even the floor that I walk on all came from different kinds of trees from forests deep and wide.

I wondered how many trees were used for me to live in my house and simply do my math homework? So it got me thinking further about forests. Forests protect trees so that they are thick and sturdy to be home to my favorite animals like deer, bears, rabbits, foxes, raccoons, squirrels and eagles. The forest also provides food like nuts and fruits. The height of the forest gives cover to these wonderful animals while providing clean air to me at the same time. Best of all trees are renewable unlike plastics which means trees can grow again and provide for the next generation.

The forest is important to me because I love animals and prefer nature made toys, pencils and even my school chair. Now back to work on my subtraction problems! Thank you forests for making my home beautiful.

