



Best Tree Forever: 2nd-5th Grade Guided Field Trip

Thank you for choosing Hoyt Arboretum for your school field trip!

This field trip uses inquiry-based methods to introduce your students to tree structures and their functions. Our goal is to have students use their senses to engage with the environment and connect with trees, wherever they may be.

Second through fifth grade groups will leave Hoyt Arboretum with a deep understanding of a native tree species or Best Tree Forever (BTF) that can be recognized all over the greater Portland area. This field trip is 90 minutes long.

Hoyt Arboretum Friends has created this program to align Oregon's Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). We have implemented the following Disciplinary core ideas and Performance expectations into our **Best Tree Forever** field trip:

- *Disciplinary Core Ideas:*
 - **LS1.A: Structure and Function**
 - **LS1.B: Growth and Development of Organisms**
 - **LS1.C: Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms**
 - **LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems**

- *Performance Expectations:*
 - **K-LS1-1, 1-LS1-1, 2-LS2-2, 3-LS1-1, 4-LS1-1, 5-LS1-1**





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Best Tree Forever (BTF) Field Trip Activities

Below are the experiential activities that may take place on a field trip. Every field trip is unique, and our Nature Educators are encouraged to alter lessons, based on the questions and curiosities of the students. Students will be encouraged to use all their senses and movement to explore these key concepts.

1. Mystery Bag

- Students will experience the differences between deciduous and coniferous trees, by using their sense of touch, smell, and observation skills.

2. Squirrely Seeds

- Students will embody the role of wildlife in seed dispersal.

3. Best Tree Forever (BTF)

- 2nd and 3rd grade will identify the interrelationships of their BTF with other living organisms.
- 3rd and 4th grade will identify and recognize their BTFs life cycle and work together as teams to find examples of these stages along the trails.
- 4th and 5th graders will look at the inside of a tree trunk and understand each of the different layers by acting out new cell growth and how water and nutrients move throughout the tree.

Best Tree Forever Certificate (Optional)

Please print a **Best Tree Forever (BTF) Certificate** so that your students can reconnect with their tree back in the classroom. The certificate and additional pre- and post-activities can also be found on our [website](#).

Thank you for your interest in Hoyt Arboretum Education Programs. If you have any questions please contact our Youth Programs Coordinator, Elena Amaya at elena@hoytarboretum.org.

