

Name:

Date:

Sustainability & Forestry

Tree Identification

Part 1: Identifying Species

In this activity, you will try to identify what species of trees might be found in your local area.

Choose a region in your area that has trees in it. What kinds of trees are there? You may find some of these.

- *Makominatig* (Showy Mountain Ash)

This tree can be found along rocky shorelines in Ontario. Between June to July, it has clusters of small white flowers. The fruit look like clusters of berries.

- *Giishkaatig* (Eastern White Cedar)

This is an evergreen tree. It grows in wet areas. It has short branches. It has green to brown female cones.

- *Zhingobaandag* (Balsam Fir)

This is an evergreen tree. It grows in forests and in places with moist soil. It has barrel-shaped cones growing near the top of the tree.

- *Azaadi* (Poplar)

This is a medium-sized deciduous tree. It is common throughout Ontario, and grows in open and closed forests across many different kinds of soil. Its leaf stalks are flattened and longer than the leaf blades, and the leaves shake in the wind.

- *Mina'ig* (Spruce)

This is a tall evergreen tree. It grows in rich, well-drained soils across mixed and coniferous forests. It also grows near rivers and streams, and is known for its gray-brown bark and the unpleasant smell of its broken needles.

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Part 2: Your Data & Calculations

Pick a location with trees (about the size of a soccer field). Fill in this table to keep track of how many trees you see of these:

Type of Tree	Number of Trees Seen
<i>Makominatig</i> (Showy Mountain Ash)	
<i>Giishkaatig</i> (Eastern White Cedar)	
<i>Zhingobaandag</i> (Balsam Fir)	
<i>Azaadi</i> (Poplar)	
<i>Mina'ig</i> (Spruce)	
Other species of trees	
TOTAL TREES COUNTED	

Fill in the table below with the percentages of each tree you counted in your chosen area.

You can find the percentage of each kind of tree by dividing the number of a tree's species, by the total number of trees counted.

$\text{Number of Trees Seen} \div \text{Total Tree Counted} = \% \text{ of a Tree}$

You can use a calculator to find the percentage.

Type of Tree	Percentage of Tree (%)
<i>Makominatig</i> (Showy Mountain Ash)	
<i>Giishkaatig</i> (Eastern White Cedar)	
<i>Zhingobaandag</i> (Balsam Fir)	
<i>Azaadi</i> (Poplar)	
<i>Mina'ig</i> (Spruce)	
Other species of trees	
TOTAL % TREES COUNTED	100%

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Part 3: Questions

In the local area you picked, what is the most abundant (*highest percentage*) tree species?

What is the least common tree species in that area?
