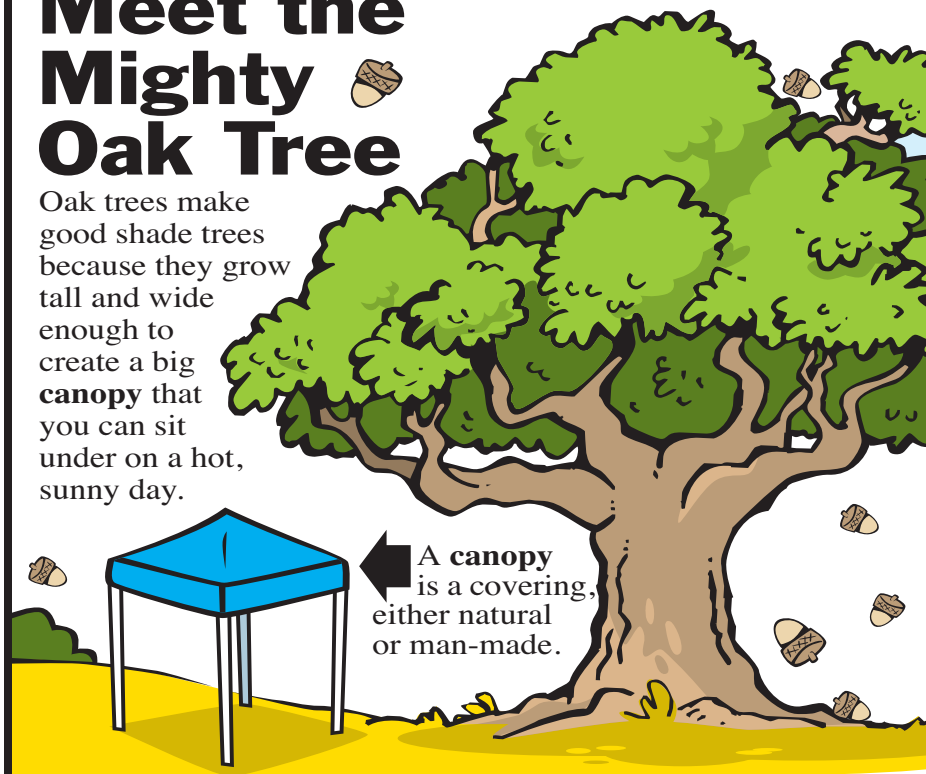


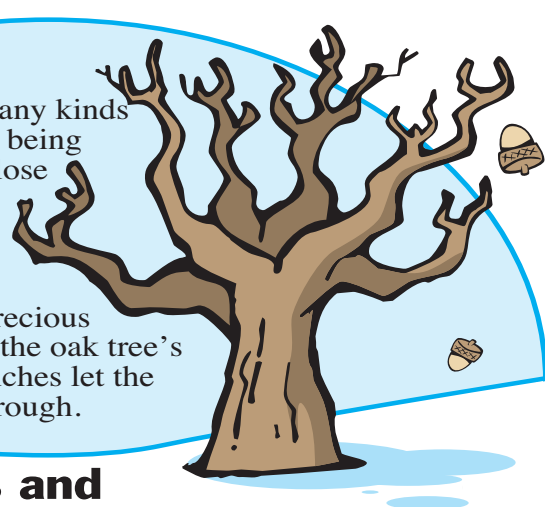
Meet the Mighty Oak Tree

Oak trees make good shade trees because they grow tall and wide enough to create a big **canopy** that you can sit under on a hot, sunny day.



Standards Link: Science: Students know that living things in an ecosystem are independent for survival.

In winter, many kinds of oak trees, being **deciduous**, lose their leaves. During that time when sunlight is especially precious for warmth, the oak tree's leafless branches let the sun shine through.



Oak Trees and Native Americans

Oak trees provided more than shade for the first Americans. Their fruit, known as **acorns**, were an essential source of food for Native Americans from coast to coast.

The acorns were ground into a meal that was used to make mush or pounded with meat, fat and berries to make **pemmican**, a paste that dries into chewy, nutritious strips.

Standards Link: History: Students understand the daily life and values of Native American cultures.

Oak Tree Exercises

Pretend you are a mighty oak tree and give these exercises a try.



Curl up into a tight ball like an acorn. Then slowly start to stand up, stre-e-etching your arms as far as you can, like branches on a growing oak tree.



Whoa! You're now in a big wind storm. Lean as far as you can to one side, then the other.



Now it's fall. Shake, shake, shake those dead leaves off!



Use a stack of books in each hand to pretend some kids built a tree fort in your branches. How long can you hold the books up?

Standards Link: Physical Education: Use a variety of basic and advanced movement forms.

Don't Eat That Acorn!

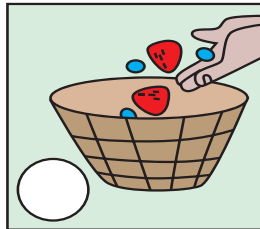
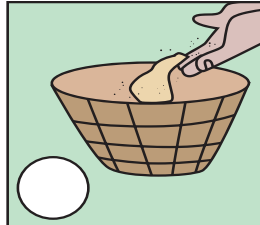
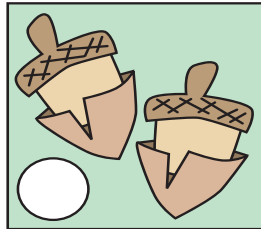
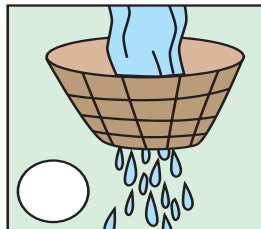
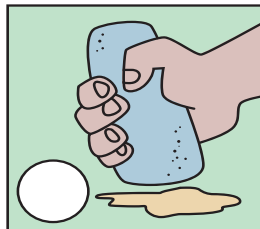
Don't pick an acorn and try to eat it right off the tree. It is full of chemicals called **tannins** that taste terrible and could make you sick. Before acorns can be used to make food, the meal must be carefully prepared.

How many acorns can you find on this page?

Making Acorns Safe for Eating

Read the steps that Native Americans followed to remove tannins from acorns. Then number the pictures in the correct order.

1. Shell the acorns by splitting the outer shell and removing the light-colored inner nut.
2. Grind the shelled acorns into a fine meal.
3. Scoop the pounded meal into a basket.
4. Rinse the acorn meal with hot water to wash away the tannins. The meal must be rinsed at least ten times, or more if cold water is used.
5. Add water to the leached meal and stir with a hot rock lodged into a looped stick.
6. Add berries, seeds or dried meat for flavor.
7. Eat!

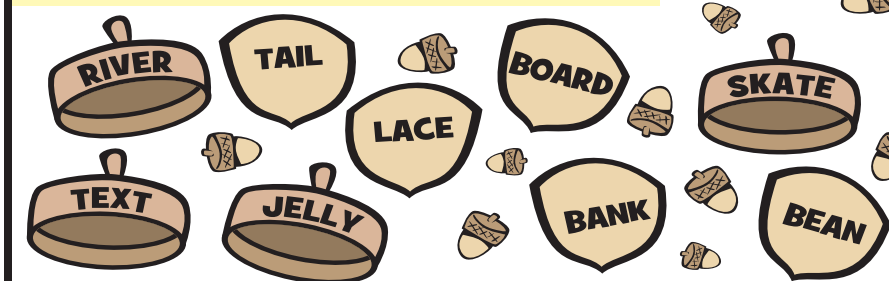


Extra! Extra!
Compound Collectors
For five minutes, look through the newspaper or your newspaper's website for compound words. Then have a friend try. Who found the most compound words?

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Identify and read compound words.

In a Nutshell

Nutshell is a compound word. Draw a line from each acorn cap to a nut to form compound words.



Kid Scoop Puzzler

Match each acorn to the kind of oak tree it comes from. Do the math to check your answers.



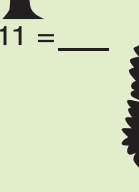
Golden Oak



Black Oak



Tanbark Oak



Black Oak

17 - 11 =

21 - 12 =

15 - 8 =

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate sums and differences.

Double Double Word Search

DECIDUOUS
PEMMICAN
SUNLIGHT
POUNDED
TANNINS
NATIVE
CANOPY
ACORN
COAST
SHELL
SHADE
PASTE
MEAT
MUSH
OAK

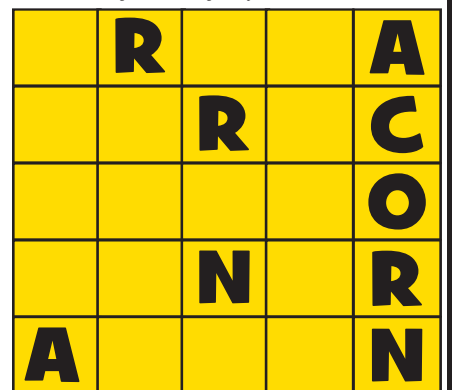
Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

G	S	H	E	L	L	R	O	W	P
T	P	U	E	D	A	H	S	O	S
H	E	T	O	A	K	C	U	C	Y
G	M	H	S	U	M	N	O	E	P
I	M	E	A	L	D	A	V	R	O
L	I	L	A	E	S	I	A	N	N
N	C	D	D	T	T	N	C	I	A
U	A	D	P	A	S	T	E	E	C
S	N	I	N	N	A	T	E	R	D

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop-doku

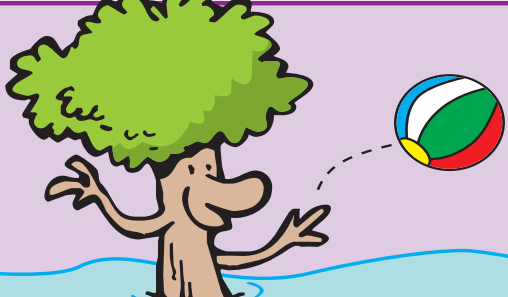
Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word ACORN in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Fall in My Town
Look through the newspaper for pictures and words that show you it is fall in your town. Cut these out and make a "Fall in My Town" poster. **Bonus Challenge:** Put the words you find in ABC order.

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Know how symbols are used to communicate meaning.



What do trees wear to pool parties?

ANSWER: Swim trunks.

Write On!

The Old Oak Tree
One day I was climbing an old oak tree and ...
Finish this story.

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