

Tree Systems

Bark

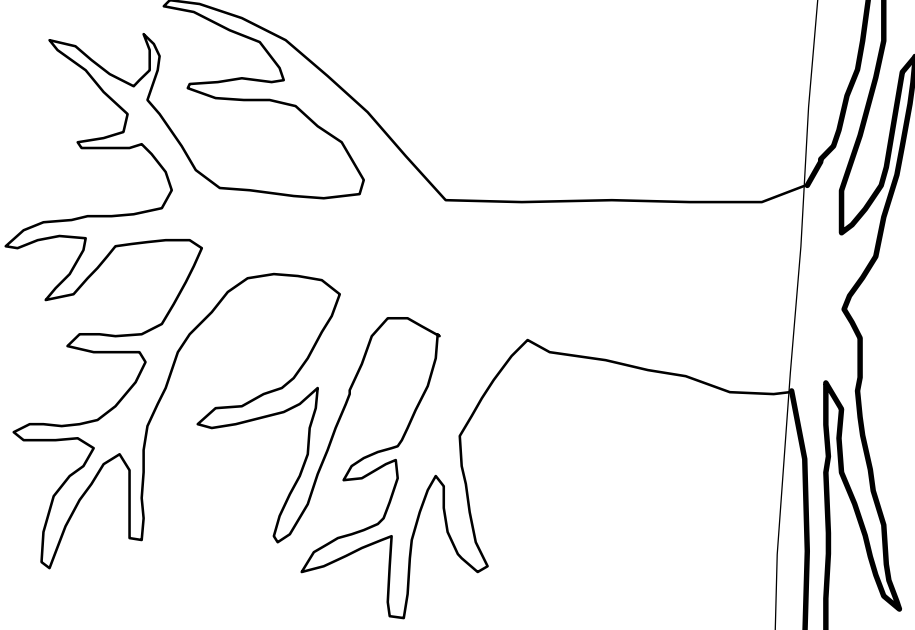
Function - protect the special layer of the tree just under the bark which makes new wood and new bark. It also protects the tree from disease, decay, and insects.

Threats - bark is damaged when it is torn off. This can happen when people pick at bark, or when a lawnmower or other machine or tool bumps into it. Young trees have very delicate bark. Fire can damage bark.

Leaves

Function - Use the water from the roots, carbon dioxide from the air, and sunlight to make its own food. This is called PHOTOSYNTHESIS. Leaves also help a tree pump water up from the roots.

Threats - Leaves are damaged when they are picked off, insects eat them, disease kills them, dry weather causes them to die, or fire kills them.



Neatly colour the roots brown, the trunk and branches grey, and colour green leaves on the tree.

Roots

Function - absorb water and minerals from the ground and transport them up into the tree. The tree uses the water during PHOTOSYNTHESIS to make its food

Threats - roots are damaged if they become too dry or too wet, or when they are damaged by people cutting them when digging, or placing sidewalks, driveways, or parking lots too close to them.