

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL - HOW TO OBSERVE A TREE



From 10 feet away, look at a tree. What do you see, hear, and smell? Don't forget to look up! Write a detailed description in your notebook.



Move to one foot away. Touch and smell the bark, the leaves, the needles, the cones, or the stems. Are there insects or animals living in the tree? Describe them. What are they doing? What do they sound like? What specific colors do you see?



Move to one inch away. (Yes, you may feel silly.) Notice the smallest details and write them down.



Sit with your back against the bark and do a "free write" about your tree. Can you find similes and metaphors to describe what you experienced? Write about your thoughts and feelings. All feelings are valid!

