**Witness Tree Exploration Activity 1 for Educators:** Messagesas Learning Tools

1. Explore the past messages of the Harvard Forest witness tree at <https://twitter.com/awitnesstree>.
2. Cut and paste three messages that catch your attention. For each one, free-flow some sentences or bullet points about why the message interests **you**.

**MESSAGE 1**:

My thoughts:

**MESSAGE 2:**

My thoughts:

**MESSAGE 3:**

My thoughts:

1. Cut and paste three more messages (or they might be the same ones!) that would catch your students’ attention. For each one, write some sentences or bullet points about why the message would interest **your** **students**. Then consider a question or two that they might ask about each message. Do you know the answers?

**MESSAGE 1**:

Interest for students:

What questions student might want to ask:

What resources you need to answer those questions:

**MESSAGE 2:**

Interest for students:

What questions student might want to ask:

What resources you need to answer those questions:

**MESSAGE 3:**

Interest for students:

What questions student might want to ask:

What resources you need to answer those questions:

**Witness Tree Exploration Activity 2 for Educators:** Introduce your tree to students

Brainstorm and then describe two ways you might introduce a witness tree to your students.

* Should they visit it in person?
* Should they visit a tree in their own schoolyard or community and reflect on its role in the ecosystem?
* For students who are too young to be on social media, should the tree send some postcards with printed tweets on them?
* Would students watch [a short video about the Harvard Forest Witness Tree?](https://vimeo.com/128176615)

What points in your curriculum might the tree fit into?

**Schoolyard Ecology Lesson Plan Template**

**Overview**

**Objectives**

**Length of Lesson**

**Grade Level**

**Standards + Practices Met**

**Supporting Materials, Handouts, Presentations Needed**

**Background for Students**

**Student Activities**

**Assessment**

**Teacher Reflection on How It Went in the Classroom**