

PRE-K

Week

35

Smart Activities



SMART CHOICE. SMARTER CHILD.®

Generosity

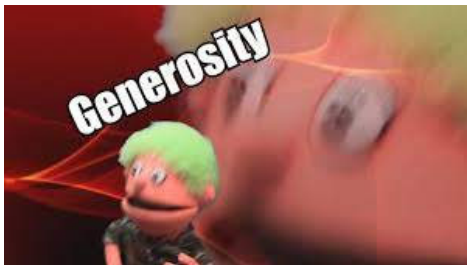
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/8ACmWHVu9s4>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Watch the video with your child.
2. Encourage him/her to dance and sing along with the video.
3. After the video, ask your child how he/she feels about being generous and what it means to him/her.



The Giving Tree

by Shel Silverstein

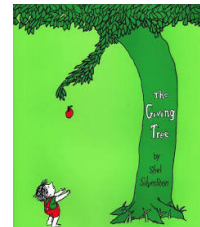
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/zj7ne1fx0TM>

Preparation: Preview video. (There is a sequencing activity to go along with the book.)

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions about the story, ex: "What did the tree give to the boy?" "Why was the tree happy?" "What made the tree sad?" "What happened at the end of the story?"



Story Sequencing: The Giving Tree

Materials: The Giving Tree template, scissors

Preparation: Print template. Cut out each picture.

Instructions:

1. Say, "I want you to look at all of the pictures and put them in the correct order of the story. If we need to, we can relisten to the story."
2. Encourage your child put the pictures in the correct chronological order.
3. Then, have him/her retell you the story.



Snowman Cup Slam

Materials: Styrofoam cups (6), markers (black & orange), sock, beans, rubber bands

Preparation: Set up an open area. Fill a sock with beans.

Instructions:

1. Say, "I want you to decorate the cups to look like snowmen."
2. Once completed, help your child stack them 3 on the bottom, two in the middle, and 1 on top.
3. Then encourage your child to stand back and throw the sock. As he/she masters knocking the snowmen down, have her move back.



"Giving Is Better"

by Little Arrow

Materials: paper, pencil, internet access, website:

https://youtu.be/UdgALI_UgUg

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Watch the video with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "How did Clarence feel at the beginning of the story?" "Who shared with Clarence?" "How did he help Willow?" "How did both of them feel?"
3. Encourage your child to write a list of how he/she can give to others.



The Berenstain Bears and the Joy of Giving

by Jan & Mike Berenstain

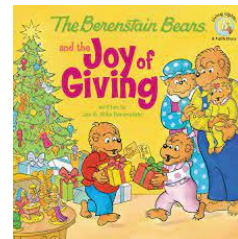
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/h3ZFH46AUWI>

Preparation: Preview book.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "What did the cub bears dress up like for the play?" "How did the cubs learn about the joy of giving?"



Light Up the World

Materials: 9-volt battery, string of Christmas lights (buy at a Dollar store), scissors

Preparation: Take string of lights and cut the green wire so that you have just 2 lights connected. Cut just a little of the plastic wire casing off so that the wires are exposed (about 1 cm).

Instructions:

1. Say, "This is a battery and lights. Can you make the lights light up?"
2. Allow your child to experiment (under close supervision).
3. If your child needs help, touch one of the wires on one battery prong and have him/her touch the other one on the other prong.



Ornament Exchange

Materials: ping pong balls, 2 containers, spoon

Preparation: Find an open area. Set up containers apart from each other. Place balls in one container.

Instructions:

1. Say, "You are going to take the ping pong balls from one container to the next using a spoon and following my directions. I will say walk, walk backwards, run, skip, etc."
2. Continue activity while interest remains.



Alphabet Tree

Materials: Alphabet Tree template, dot color coding labels, marker

Preparation: Print template. Write lower-case letters on the dots.

Instructions:

1. Ask your child to identify the upper-case letters on the tree.
2. Next, show him/her the dots with the lowercase letters and say, "Now match the lowercase letters to the uppercase letters."
3. Then, have your child write/trace all the letters.



The Doorbell Rang

by Pat Hutchins

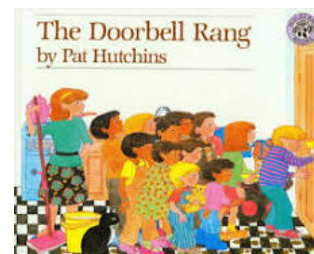
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/HZpXuc735pg>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions about the story, ex: "What happened each time the doorbell rang?" "How many cookies did the children get?" "Were the children generous?"



Ornament Roll

Materials: ping pong ball, straw, playdough

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Say, "First, I want you to make a maze using the playdough by rolling out long lines on the table. Shape the playdough in a maze and the challenge is to blow the ball through without it getting out."
2. After the maze is done, give your child the ping pong ball and straw. Encourage him/her to blow the ball through the maze without it jumping out.
3. If it does jump out, have your child figure out how to solve it.



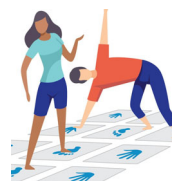
Hands, Feet Hopscotch Tree

Materials: paper, markers, tape

Preparation: Locate a safe, open area. Tape out a large triangle to represent the hopscotch tree. Have your child trace his/her hands and feet 7 times each. Tape the paper inside the tree alternating.

Instructions:

1. Say, "We are going to play a game called 'Hands, Feet Hopscotch Tree.' You are going to start at the bottom and follow the patterns."
2. your child will move up the tree following the hands and feet on the paper until he/she makes it to the top. Then reverse.



Stacking Christmas Tree

Materials: plastic cups (red and green), plastic lids, craft sticks, pom-poms, empty thread spools, other items around the house

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Ask, "Will all of these items stack easily?" Have your child make a hypothesis.
2. Allow him/her to experiment with stacking the items, using trial and error.
3. Discuss what your child is doing as he/she builds and ask questions.



The Greedy Triangle

by Marilyn Burns

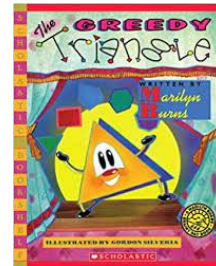
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/ak5q-DY-uyQ>

Preparation: Preview book.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "What shapes did the triangle become in the story?" "What did he like about being a triangle?" "What did the triangle learn about being greedy?"

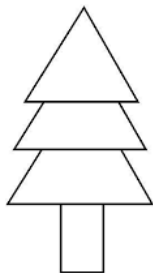


3 Triangles Make A Tree

Materials: green paper, scissors, pencil, glue, markers

Preparation: Gather materials.

1. Say, "I want you to draw 3 different size triangles. Then cut them out."
2. After your child has cut out the triangles, encourage him/her to make a tree by stacking the triangles on top of each other gluing in place.
3. Then, have your child decorate his/her tree.



Bouncing Around the Tree

Materials: ball, chalk

Preparation: Locate a safe area to bounce the ball. Draw a Christmas Tree/Triangle Pattern. (Save the drawing for a future activity.)

Instructions:

1. Say, "We are going to practice bouncing the ball up and down around the tree."
2. Demonstrate.
3. Encourage your child to bounce the ball by keeping control.
4. As he/she gains control, encourage your child to bring it closer and/or further away from his/her body.



Shape Gifts Galore

Materials: Gifts Galore template, scissors

Preparation: Print template. Cut out each gift.

Instructions:

1. Say, "I want you to look at all of these gifts and group them by color."
2. Encourage your child group them and then count how many are in each group.
3. Ask the questions: "Which group has **more**?" "Which group has **less**?"
4. Then, have your child group the gifts by shape and count again.
5. Ask the same questions.



George The Generous Giraffe

by Kameron Trumbo

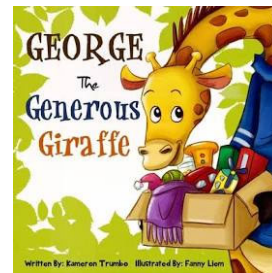
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/XCv44gU7mmU>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "What did George enjoy doing for others?" "What happened when he had given out everything?" "What did all of his animal friends learn?"



Coin Tree

Materials: Coin Tree template, coins (dimes, nickels, quarters, pennies)

Preparation: Print tree and gather coins.

Instructions:

1. Say "I want you to match up the correct coins with the correct amount on the tree."
2. Encourage your child to read the amount and match up the correct coins.



Skipping Around the Christmas Tree

Materials: chalk

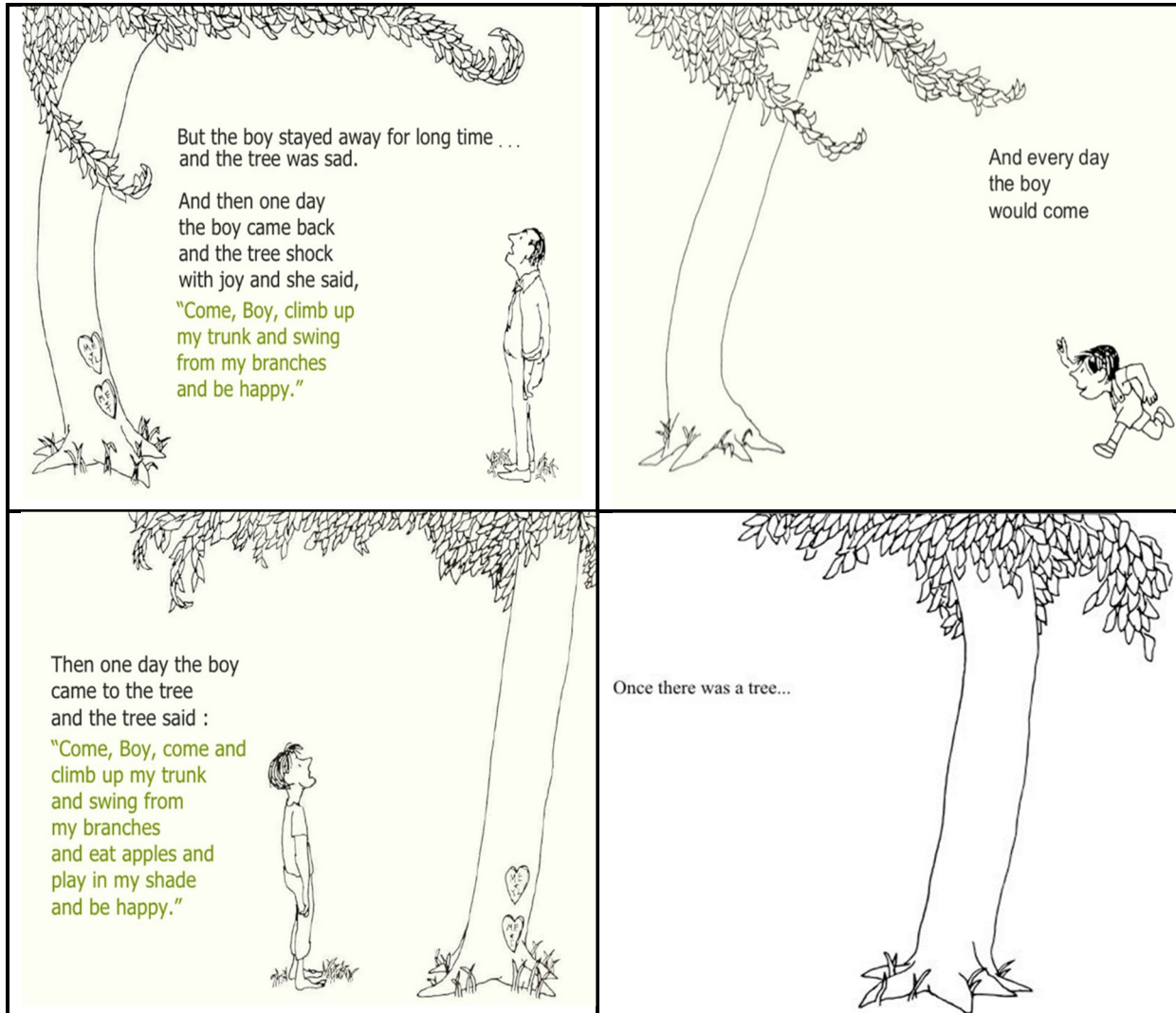
Preparation: If possible, use the tree you drew in the Bouncing Around the Tree activity earlier in the week.

Instructions:

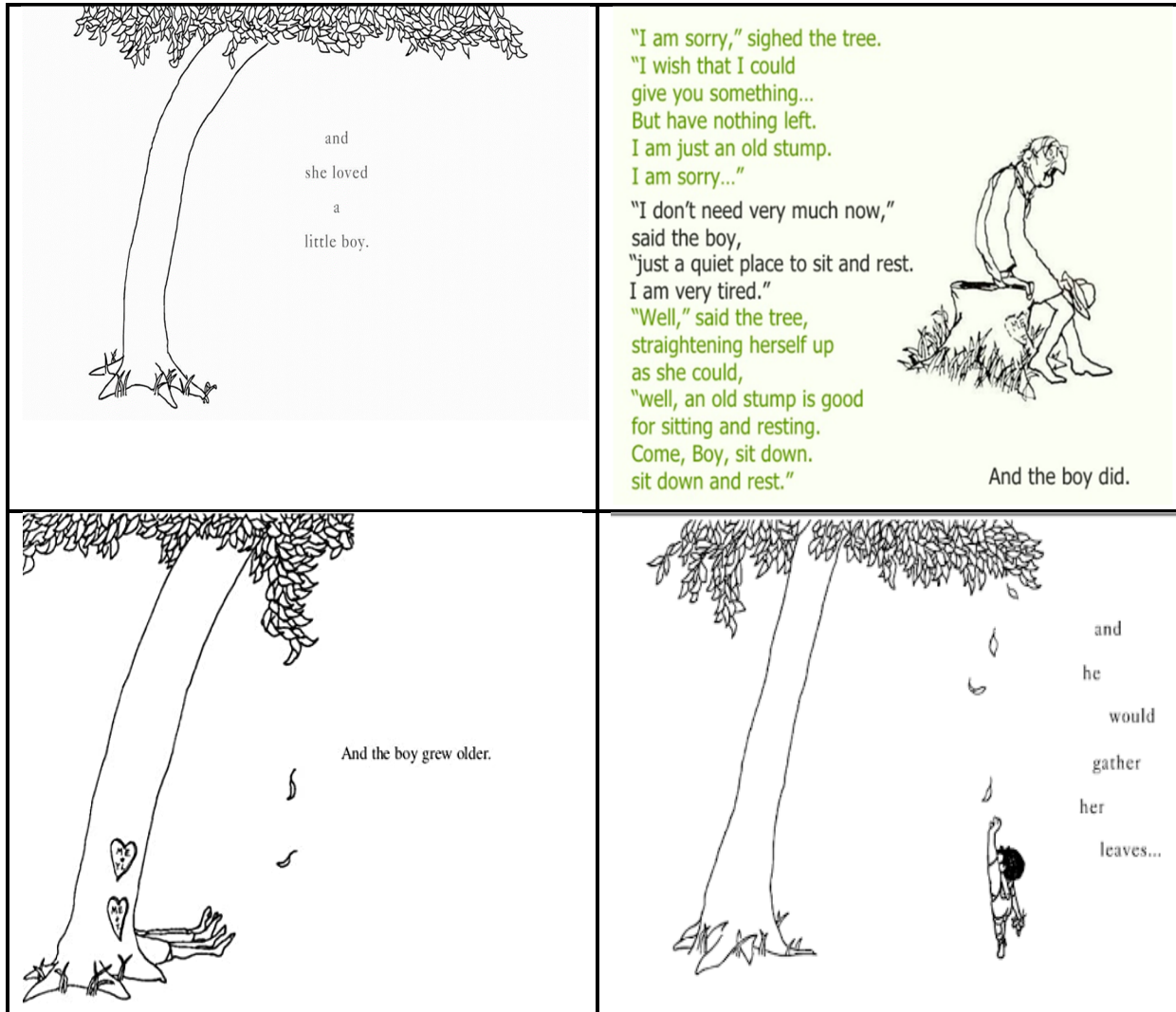
1. Say, "I want you to skip around the Christmas Tree."
2. To extend the activity, have your child walk, run, walk backwards, etc. around the tree.



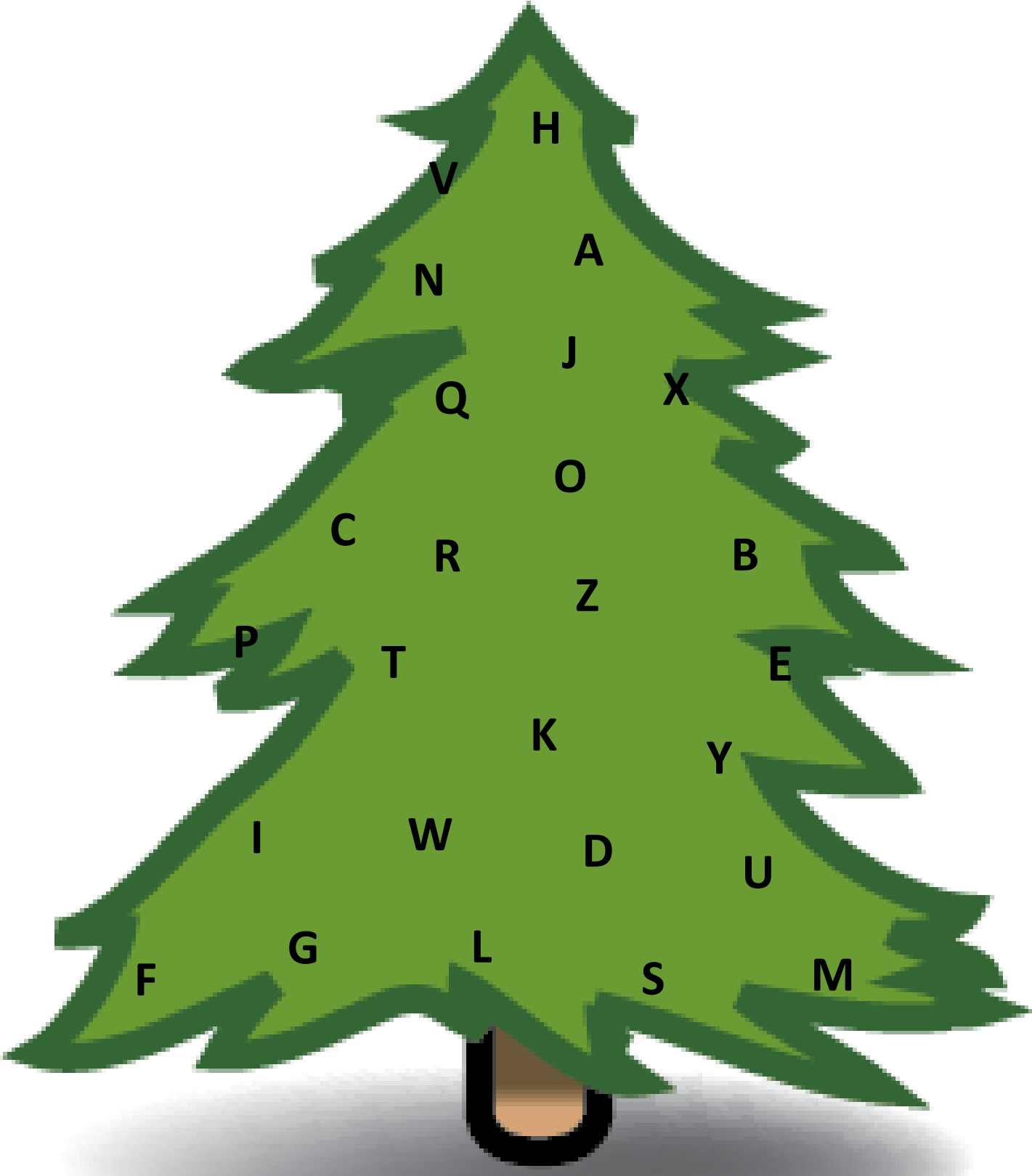
The Giving Tree Template



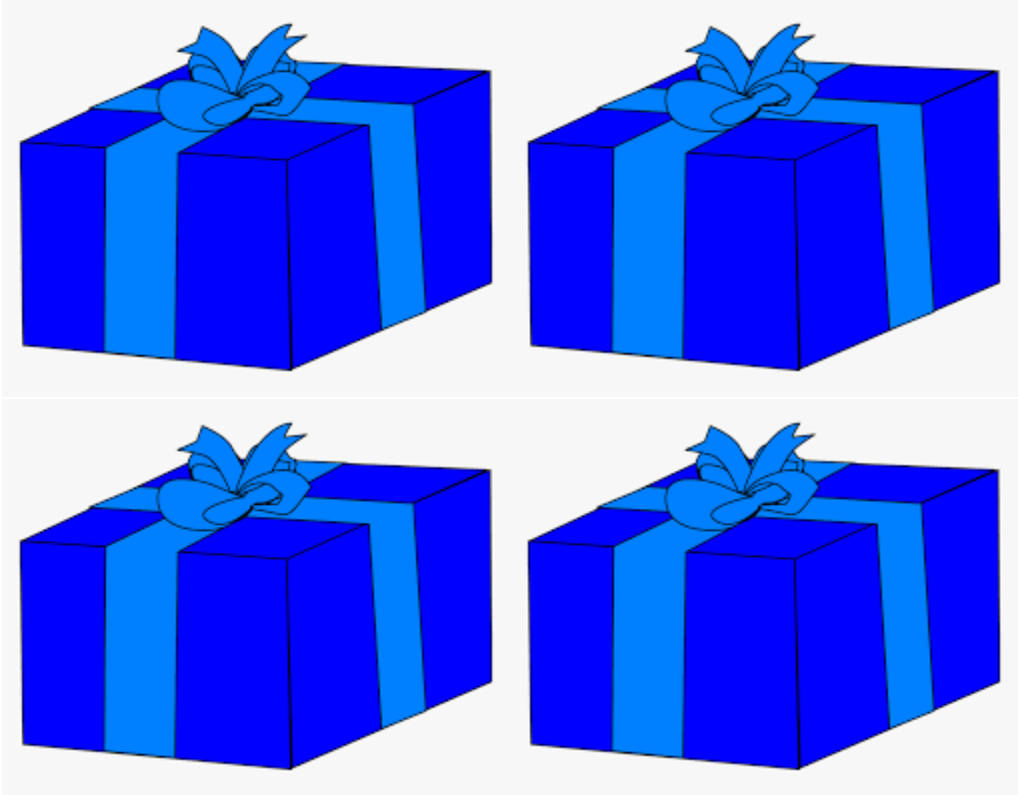
The Giving Tree Template



Alphabet Tree Template



Gifts Galore Template



Gifts Galore Template



Gifts Galore Template



Gifts Galore Template



Gifts Galore Template



Coin Tree Template

