



LEAF OR TREE RUBBING

Trees play many important roles in a riparian area. Tree roots help to stabilize banks and soil which helps to prevent harmful erosion. Tree canopies provide important shade to streams helping to keep the water cool for fish. Woody debris in the streambank helps to slow the velocity of the water and create pools which serve as resting places for fish. Trees in the stream can also provide protective cover for fish. Healthy forests create important habitat for a diversity of wildlife. In Central Oregon, the two most common upland trees are ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine. The ponderosa pine has a distinctive puzzle-like reddish bark and three long needles. Lodgepole pine needles come in bunches of two.

Find a quiet comfortable place to observe the natural area around you. Spend some time noticing the features of your spot and pick an area to draw that you are interested in.

1. Using a Sharpie marker, use lines and shapes to draw what you see.
 2. Once your scene is drawn, choose a number of peeled oil pastels or colored pencils to add color to the art.
 3. Place paper against a tree, stump, or on top of a leaf. Using the SIDE of a pastel, rub the color onto the paper. The roughness of the bark should add texture and design to the drawing.
 4. Practice rubbing different colors on top of each other to add dimension. For instance, different shades of green work well together when shading in plants and trees.
- What details did you observe that you hadn't noticed when you first arrived?
 - What components in your drawing are found in a healthy riparian zone?
 - What parts of your sketch are the most interesting to you?
 - What would you change if you did this project again?