# STUDY QUESTIONS

# TO "HOW BIG IS THAT TREE?"

Young naturalists

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, July–August 2015, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.

*Minnesota Conservation Volunteer* magazine is your guide to wild things. Every other month, six times a year, the magazine arrives in your school library. Each one has a story for Young Naturalists like you. **Are you curious about wild things?** Young Naturalists tells true stories that can answer all kinds of questions such as these—

Have you ever heard of a purple wartyback? How about a pink heelsplitter, pimpleback, or monkeyface? All are Minnesota freshwater mussels. Read Young Naturalists stories to learn which species (kinds) of critters live in Minnesota—frogs, salamanders, snakes, wild cats, wild dogs, weasels, mice, and rabbits.

Want to **peek inside the den of a red fox** and see how the kits grow up? Are you a rock hound searching for agates? Have you ever wondered what's alive under snow? How animals see? Why is a bluebird blue? How birds fly?

Would you like to hear the true story of **giants of the ice age**? Young Naturalists also tells you about the underground universe. You can read the story of a tiny owl that went to a hospital with an injured wing. Find out about a boy who worked in a logging camp. Read the story of Ojibwe children today hunting and gathering like their ancestors did.

Learn how to get started camping, snowshoeing, ice fishing, or canoeing.

Find these stories and more online at www.mndnr.gov/young\_naturalists.

Your knowledge of wild things helps you explore and enjoy the outdoors. Have fun!



# "How Big Is That Tree?" Study Questions

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, July-August 2015, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.



#### 1. Why were Danae Schafer and Simon Cain in the woods?

2. What did they notice that was out of the ordinary?

#### 3. What happened next?

4. Picea mariana is another name for \_\_\_\_\_\_.

5. How does math help foresters manage forest lands?

#### 6. What makes trees so valuable?

7. Can you find the height of a tree without a clinometer?

8. IF YOU ARE USING A 12-INCH RULER, YOUR PARTNER APPEARS 3 INCHes tall on the ruler, and your partner is actually 50 inches tall, how tall is the tree in feet?

9. Why do you suppose a forester would want to know a tree's volume?

10. What is a tree's circumference?

11. IF A TREE'S CIRCUMFERENCE IS 37 INCHES AND THE TREE IS 200 INCHES TALL, WHAT IS ITS VOLUME?

12. How many school forests are there in Minnesota?

13. Imagine you are standing under a white oak tree and you want to calculate the crown spread. At its narrowest point the crown is 17 feet. At its widest point the crown is 37 feet. What is the crown's spread?

14. White spruce is also known as \_\_\_\_\_

Challenge: The state champion white pine is 103 feet tall and has a circumference of 214 inches and a crown spread of 84 feet. How many points has it earned on the Minnesota Big Tree Registry?

## MINNESOTA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Name	Period	ДАТЕ
<b>1.</b> The smallest school forest in Minnesota is	acre;	the largest is
acres.		
A. less than one; greater than 300		
B. less than one; 200		
C. less than one; 100		
D. less than one; 50		
<b>2.</b> The state champion white spruce is about as tall	l as a	_story building.
A. 8		
B. 12		
C. 10		
D. 5		
<b>3.</b> The state champion black spruce is feet	tall.	
A. 66		
B. 98		
C. 58		
D. 84		
<b>4.</b> What is a clinometer used for?		

- 5. The cylinder of a tree's trunk is also known as its
  - A. height.
  - B. circumference.
  - C. volume.
  - D. radius.

## STUDENT STUDY GUIDE: VOCABULARY

**ANALYZE** study something closely and carefully

**CALCULATE** find a number using mathematical processes

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** state agency responsible for management and conservation of Minnesota's land, water, plants, and wildlife

**DIMENSIONS** measurements that describe the size of an object

**FORMULA** a way to express information symbolically

MANAGE take care of and make decisions about

**PROPORTIONAL** when two variables have a fixed relationship with each other such that a change in one will result in a corresponding change the other

**VOLUME** amount of three-dimensional space an object occupies

# STUDENT STUDY GUIDE: VOCABULARY CARDS

Cut along horizontal lines, fold in the middle and tape or staple. Blanks are provided to allow you or your students to add new words or phrases

What does ANALYZE mean?	To study something closely and carefully is to
To <b>CALCULATE</b> is to	To find a number by Using mathematical processes is to
What is the DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES?	The state agency responsible for management and conservation of Minnesota's land, water, plants, and wildlife is the
<b>DIMENSIONS</b> are	<b>Measurements that describe</b> <b>THE SIZE OF AN OBJECT</b> are its
What is a mathematical <b>FORMULA</b> ?	A way to express information symbolically is called a

To <b>MANAGE</b> is to	To Take care of and make decisions about is to
What does <b>PROPORTIONAL</b> mean?	WHEN TWO VARIABLES HAVE A FIXED RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER SUCH THAT A CHANGE IN ONE WILL RESULT IN A CORRESPONDING CHANGE THE OTHER they are
What is <b>VOLUME</b> ?	The amount of THREE DIMENSIONAL SPACE AN OBJECT OCCUPIES is its
	FOLD
	PLD
	PP