

Name _____

Tree Growth Collections Gallery Level 4

Dear Students,

Scientists often use models from other fields to help them understand their own research. Paleontologists might look at plants and animals alive today. All living things grow and we can measure them in different ways. As trees grow, they form rings within the trunk that we can measure to learn more about the way the tree grew. Dinosaur bones also have rings that are similar to those in tree rings, but we need a microscope to see them. You will take a look at dinosaur bone rings when you get back to your classroom. Measuring tree rings in the Collections Gallery will help you understand this way of measuring growth.

Good luck with your measurements, you will need them when you get back to your classroom.

Thanks for your hard work,

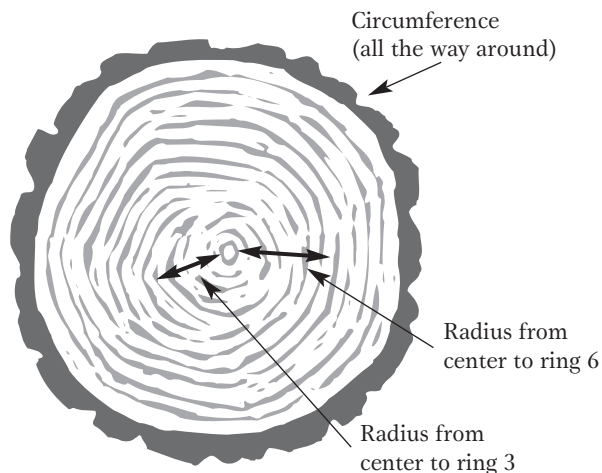
Kristi Curry Rogers, Curator of Paleontology

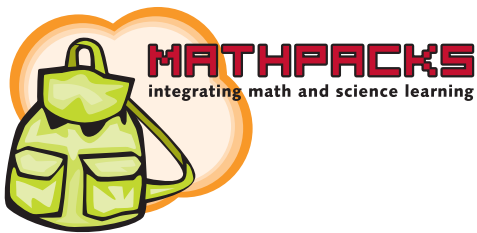
Before you start this activity, use the map in the backpack to help you find the tree slices in the Collections Gallery.

Look and Explore

Look at all of the tree slices in the Collections Gallery. What do you notice?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____





Name _____

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Choose one tree. Kind of tree _____

Guess: How old do you think this tree was when it was cut down? _____

Count: How many rings does this tree have? _____

Measure:

Ring number From the center	Radius at that ring Start your measurement at the center of the slice		Draw your tree slice and show where you measured. Why is it important to show where you measured?
8	Measure cm	Check cm	
9	Measure cm	Check cm	
10	Measure cm	Check cm	
12	Predict cm	Measure cm	Check cm

Measure the circumference of your slice _____

Measure the radius from the center to the last ring of your slice _____