

FriscO^{PUBLIC} Library

Activities at Home

Tree Identification with a Leaf Dichotomous Key

A dichotomous key is a tool that allows you to identify things you find in nature. You can use leaves and a dichotomous key to identify tree types!

To begin, take a walk around your neighborhood or around your favorite nature spot. Gather leaves that have fallen. Autumn is a great time to do this!

Next, use a dichotomous key to figure out what tree types you collected leaves from. The Texas A&M Tree Forest Service has a great dichotomous key for trees in Texas. You can access it at:

<http://texastreeid.tamu.edu/content/idByLeaf/>

Choose one leaf at a time, and answer the questions asked by the dichotomous key until you are able to identify the type of tree the leaf came from. Work through all the different types of leaves you collected on your walk.

Show your favorite leaf and share the type of tree it came from with a friend!



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