

The Man Who Planted Trees

By Jim Doyiakos, High School teacher at Amundsen High School

Summary: Students will read the Short Story and watch the short video before they go outside to study trees. Students will make tree rubbings and research their favorite tree to make a booklet.

Objective: Students of multiple learning styles have an increased knowledge of the benefits of trees.

Grades: 5-12

Time needed: 2 class periods; 45-60 minutes each

Standards met:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.10: Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

Preparation: Read story and watch the 30-minutes video beforehand at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTvYh8ar3tc>

Materials Needed:

- Printed copy of story (classroom set)
- Printed copy of list of tree benefits
- Projector with internet access to view video on YouTube
- Paper and crayons for making tree rubbings outside

Procedure:

Class Period 1:

- 1.) Ask students to list what is important about trees as a classroom discussion, and have them take notes.
- 2.) Compare student notes with list of tree benefits provided discuss anything that they find surprising.
- 3.) Read story, aloud, silently, however it best fits your age group.
- 4.) Discussion: What do students think of the main character and what he did?

Class period 2:

- 5.) Watch the video, The Man Who Planted Trees.
- 6.) After watching the video, take students outside (with paper and crayons) to do tree rubbings in the school yard.

