



Hello, Trees

By Bailey Bezuidenhout, illustrated by Maria Lebedeva

As you read this book aloud, take a minute to discuss the questions it asks as you go along. You might want to discuss the following as well.

- On the endpage, what might be inside that hole the girl is peering into in the tree's trunk?
- What do you think a "soul" is? What other things feel rough and wrinkly?
- What else is in the tree with the girl? Whose eyes do you think are peeking out of the hole in the tree's trunk?
- Have you ever dug in the soil? When and why? How did it make you feel? What does it mean that the soil is "full of possibility"? What else is digging in the soil in this picture?
- What might be making the shapes of dinosaurs and lions that the little girl sees?
- Do trees smile? What kinds of things make you smile?
- What would it feel like to be up in a treehouse?
- Have you ever played beneath a tree? What did you do?
- What do you imagine "being a home" would feel like?
- Why have the leaves in the illustrations changed colors? How do you feel when fall comes? How do you think the leaves feel? Do the leaves on all trees change colors?
- What kinds of things make you feel like you're growing up? How does growing up make you feel?
- Why might a tree get chopped down?
- How are the trees named in the book similar? How are they different?
- How do you think trees are like us? How are they different?





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1. This book asks if trees are like humans. This is called “anthropomorphism—when human traits are given to nonhuman animals, objects, or nature. One way to compare things to humans is by using the word “like.” This is called a “simile.” Can you find some examples in the book? Can you make up some of your own?
2. Discuss how the book treats the passage of time. Describe how the book shows the change in seasons. What causes these changes?
3. Visit the library to learn more about trees. Look up the trees mentioned in this book. How are they alike? How are they different? Which tree is your favorite and why? How are trees important? Draw a picture of yourself with your favorite tree. Create a “tree booklet” by writing down your favorite facts about each tree. Illustrate each one. Staple the pages together or put them in a ring binder or a folder with brads.
4. Take a walk through a woods, arboretum, or park to look at the trees. Feel their bark, inspect their leaves, look for wildlife in and around them. Can you see the roots? Can you smell the trees? How are the trees you see different from one another? How are they the same?
5. Research what you can do to protect trees.

If you like this book, you might also like:

Going Outside: Listen by Amy Huntington

Millie Mae Through the Seasons by Natalie Marshall

I'm Thankful for Nature by Lindsey Sagar

Kind by Jess McGeachin

All Kinds of Animal Families by Sophy Henn

All Kinds of Animal Friends by Sophy Henn

