



# Teacher's Corner Lesson Plans

*Helping Teachers and Students Make the Most of  
their Outdoor Classroom*

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## The Night Tree<sup>\*†</sup>

Broadacres Naturalization Team

**Grade level:** Grade 2.

**Provincial curriculum links:** Ontario.

**Subject:** Science, Language.

**Keywords:** Animals, Feeding.

### Description

Using a Christmas book about feeding animals, students learn how to share Christmas with the animals.

### Curriculum Framework

Topic: Growth and Change in Animals

Strand: Life Systems

Specific Lesson Goals:

- Compare ways in which animals eat their food. Identify the needs of animals.
- Identify and compare the effects of the seasons on animals.

Topic: Language

Strand: Reading

Specific Lesson Goals:

- Read the book and discuss the content.

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\*This exercise is adapted from Bunting, Eve *Night Tree* Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. 1994.

†Submitted by: Janice Harper, Teacher, Broadacres Junior School

## Preparation

**Preparation time:** 30 minutes

**Length of lesson:** 60 minutes

**Resources required:**

- The book, “Night Tree” by Eve Bunting.
- Food - cranberries, popcorn, lard, bread and oranges.
- Cookie cutters.
- Pine cones.
- Hot chocolate for students (optional).

## Procedure

1. Read the story “Night Tree” to the class.
2. Identify what the children did for the animals.
3. Make the food and hang it on a tree outside.
4. After tree is decorated gather around the tree and sing carols and drink hot chocolate.

## Discussion and Questions

Run a whole class discussion with the following questions:

- What animals will come to our tree?
- Where will you hang your food for the mice, the birds?

## Student Evaluation

Develop a rating scale for students to determine how well they have completed the goals of the lesson.

## Enrichment and Extension Activities

Have the students make a list of which animals they think will visit the tree (must be based on observations and logic).

## Educator Notes

This is an excellent activity in which to demonstrate the spirit of helping.