

What's Going on With This Tree?

Record 5 observations as you look at this tree.

Try for at least 2 observations that you think others might not have recorded.

Be prepared to share your unusual observations.

Activities to do at home, or in your school yard:



Use a magnifying glass to observe fallen leaves.
Can you name the tree from which the leaves have fallen?



Can you find the tree from which the leaves have fallen?
If so, look at its bark.



Make a leaf rubbing, make a bark rubbing.



Create a detailed sketch of a leaf or bark.
Use a magnifying glass for your observations.



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Some example observations about this tree:

- About half of the tree leaves are a reddish color. The other half are green.
- This tree is a Maple Tree (Note maple leaf shape).
- Leaves are bright red (left side), orange (near top), and green (right side).
- This tree has no other trees growing near it.
- This tree is near a street.
- The tree is growing with grass around it.
- The tree is growing near a sidewalk
- The tree is casting a shadow.
- There is a branch near the top of the tree that has lost leaves.

Discuss: What is the difference between an **observation** and an **inference**? For example, you can infer that it is sunny because you've made the observation that the tree is casting a shadow.

