

FOSS California Trees Module
Glossary
2007 Edition

Adopt: To take on or assume.

Adopted: Taken on or assumed.

Bark: The tough outer covering of the stems and roots of trees, shrubs, and other woody plants.

Big: Large; not small.

Bigger: To become larger.

Blossom: A time of development or flowering.

Branch: A part of a tree that grows from the stem.

Broadleaf: Having relatively broad rather than needle-like or scale-like leaves.

Bud: A new growth or swelling on a plant.

Bumpy: Covered with lumps.

Change: To make or become different.

Circumference: The distance around a circle.

Cone: A reproductive structure of plants such as conifers.

Conifer: Needle-leaved or scale-leaved cone-bearing trees or shrubs such as pines, spruces, and firs.

Desert: A hot and dry area of Earth

Different: Unlike; not the same.

Edge: A rim, border, or dividing line.

Egg: A rounded, usually hard-shelled reproductive body from which organisms hatch.

End bud: The rapidly multiplying mass of cells at the end of the embryo.

Evergreen: A tree, shrub, or plant having foliage that persists and remains green throughout the year.

Fall: The time of year between summer and winter when the leaves change color and begin to drop from the trees; autumn.

Fatter: To grow wider and heavier.

Flower: A part of a plant that has petals.

Food: Anything that organisms eat that provides energy and allows them to grow.

Forcing: The pushing or pulling that makes something happen.

Fruit: Where seeds are found in a plant.

Growth ring: An annual formation of wood in plants as they grow.

Hear: To listen to somebody or something.

Heart: The core of a plant, fruit, or vegetable.

Height: How tall something is.

Leaf: A part of a tree or plant that grows from the stem.

Leaf scar: The mark left on a twig after a leaf falls.

Line: A thin, straight mark.

Little: Very small.

Living: Alive; having life; not dead.

Lobed: Having a rounded projection, especially of a body part.

Lose: Weak; not tight.

Matching: Sharing the same properties; similar.

Measurement: The total length, width, height, volume or weight of an object.

Missing: To be lost or absent.

Mountain: A high and rocky landform

Needle: A narrow, stiff leaf, as those of conifers.

Nut: A hard-shelled, one-seeded fruit, such as an acorn or hazelnut.

Observe: To use all of your senses to gather information about something.

Ocean: A body of water.

Other: Of a different character or quality; additional.

Outline: A line marking the outer boundaries of an object or shape.

Oval: Resembling an egg shape; elliptical.

Overcast: When the sky is gray and cloudy, but it is not raining or snowing.

Paddle: A usually wooden object with flat blade at one end or sometimes at both ends, used to propel a canoe or small boat.

Partly cloudy: When it is sunny outside but there are lots of clouds in the sky.

Pattern: A design; something used as a model for making things.

Point: Where two lines come together to form a sharp end.

Rainy: When the sky is cloudy and raining or drizzling.

Resource: A naturally occurring material, such as coal or water that can be used by people.

River: A body of water than flows into lakes and oceans.

Root: A part of a plant that grows in the ground.

Rough: Bumpy; not smooth.

Round: Circular in shape.

Rubbing: A representation of a raised or indented surface made by placing paper over the surface and rubbing the paper gently with a marking agent such as charcoal or chalk.

Same: Alike; not different.

Scale: A small, thin, usually dry plant structure, such as any of the protective leaves that cover a tree bud or cone.

Scar: A mark left after a wound or injury has healed.

Season: One of the four natural divisions of the year, spring, summer, fall, and winter.

See: To use your eyes to look at something.

Seed: A part of a plant from which a new plant can grow.

Sense: One of the ways you use to gather information about the world, e.g. smell, sight, touch, taste, hearing.

Serrated: Having or forming a row of small sharp projections resembling teeth.

Shape: The appearance or form of an object.

Shell: A hard, outer covering.

Shorter: Smaller in length or height.

Silhouette: The outline of a figure or object filled in with black or another solid color; a dark outline seen against a lighter background.

Size: How big or small something is.

Skinnier: To become thinner, smaller; not fatter.

Smaller: Not as large; littler.

Smell: To sense an odor with your nose.

Smooth: Flat, level; not rough.

Snowy: When the sky is cloudy and snow is falling.

Spear: A shape like an oval, but with pointed ends.

Spring: The season of the year, occurring between winter and summer, during which the weather becomes warmer and plants revive.

Stem: A part of a plant that grows up from the roots

Sunny: When the weather is bright with few or no clouds.

Swamp: A wet area of Earth

Swollen: To increase in size due to internal pressure; to bulge out.

Tip: The uppermost point; the top.

Tree: A plant with a wood stem, roots, and branches with leaves.

Triangle: A three-sided shape.

Trunk: The main stem of a tree from which braches grow.

Twig: A small, leafless branch of a woody plant.

Valley: The low land between mountains.

Weather: The condition of the air at a given time.

Wedge: A piece of material, such as metal or wood, thick at one edge and tapered to a thin edge at the other for insertion in a narrow crevice, used for splitting, tightening, securing, or levering.

Winter: The coldest season of the year, occurring between autumn and spring.