

## BES BLOOMING BUDS Grades 3-4

Hello grade 3 and 4 BES students. I hope everyone is finding ways to be helpful at home as well as finding ways to stay active and fit. The sun and warmer weather are helping the plants to grow and bloom. New beginnings and changes are happening in nature. Numerous birds to watch and listen to and plants sprouting everywhere just as it does every year. This week I hope you can go on a mini treasure hunt and find a new fresh bud.

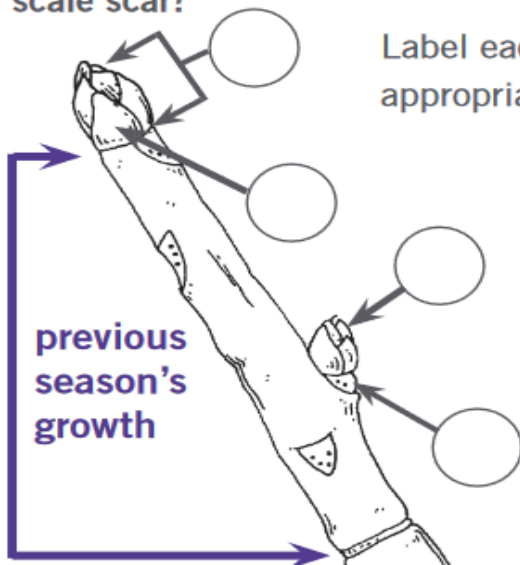
(Adapted from PLT Canada)

Nature is a wonderful teacher and getting outside to learn and play is good for your brains and bodies. Try this safe, fun, and educational outdoor activity alone in your yard or on a mini adventure with your family.

Spring is a wonderful time to go outside as we see tiny, bright green leaves of many trees burst forth. Where do the leaves come from? How do they form? In this activity, BES students will find the answers to these questions through observation and research.

Each student will search for buds and then choose a “single” twig to observe. They will examine a branch and note different features they can see. They will then gently split open a bud and examine the leaves tucked inside. Students should think about and or discuss how they think buds change into leaves. One week later, students should go outside again to the same tree and see what has changed (or they can visit each day). Finally, children think and/or discuss with someone how they think buds change into leaves.

**Tree twigs have different parts. Can you identify the terminal bud, side bud, leaf scars and bud scale scar?**



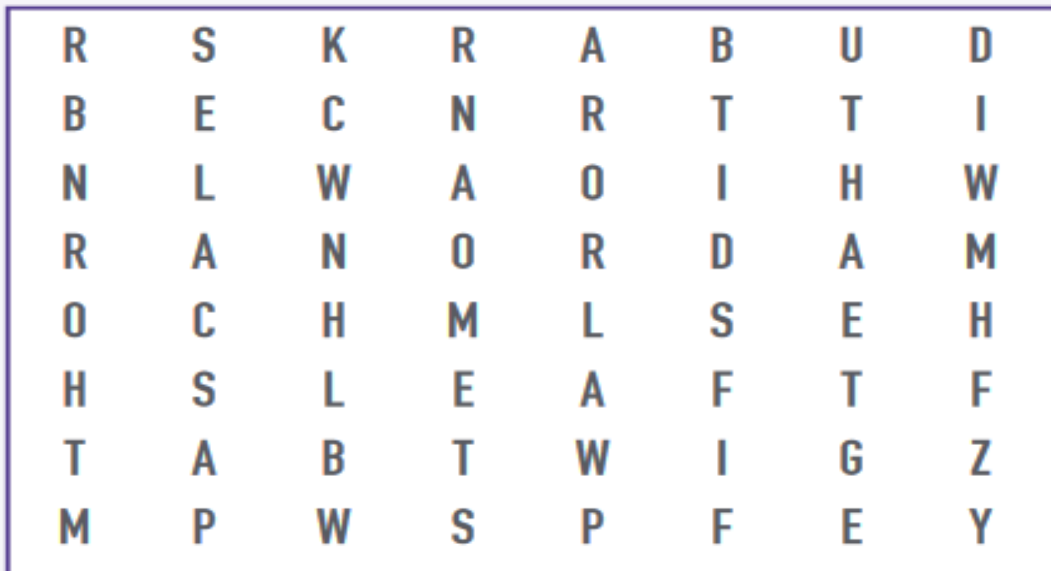
Label each circle with the appropriate number:

1. bud scale scar
2. side bud
3. terminal bud
4. leaf scar

Can you guess which number goes where?

**BES BUDS Word Search**

Bark, branch, bud, flower, leaf, node, pith, sap, scales, scars, shot, stem, thorn, twig. How many words can you find? How many can you find in nature?



### Extra

Draw a picture of your twig, identify the type of tree or shrub, and give it a name.

Have a great week

Mr. Melloy