

Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest Field Journal Activity

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Turn to page 50 of your field journal and get out a **pencil** to do all of your sketching BEFORE coloring anything in. **PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS STEP BY STEP INSTEAD OF COPYING THE PICTURES ONLY AND USE PENCIL!!** Sketch lightly so it is easily erasable when trying to fit everything in!
2. Draw a line, tracing the bottom blue line of the page to mark where the ground is or at least leave 3/4" of an inch or so to add some other words to the bottom. (Note: this was not done in the first few pictures)
3. On the **LEFT** hand side of the page, sketch one half of a tree trunk that goes the length of the page. **SEE PICTURE 1**. The trunk should take up approx. 1-1/2". Leave room at the top to add the title and a canopy of leaves.
4. Add title to very top of page, "Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest." Again, do this in pencil!! The title will be within the leaves of your canopy level tree. **SEE PICTURE 1**
5. To the trunk of this tree, add the words in pencil "Canopy Layer, Tallest trees=gets most sunlight" The words do not have to be in the same spot as in the picture, but do put it on the trunk somewhere. **SEE PICTURE 1**
6. Sketch a thin, shorter tree right next to your tallest tree, stopping underneath the canopy of your largest tree. Add a leaf canopy big enough to add in the words of the sapling layer. **SEE PICTURE 2**
7. Add the words "Sapling Layer, Young trees and short trees" to the tree you just made. You may add the words where you need to as long as it is somewhere ON the tree. **SEE PICTURE 2**

Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest Field Journal Activity

INSTRUCTIONS

8. Right beside your smaller tree, sketch in a bush or shrub that goes behind the tree and about two inches to the right of it. **SEE PICTURE 3**
9. Add the words, "Shrub Layer, Bushes and Shrubs" to the middle of your bush. Bushes and shrubs often have flowers or berries. You may add these in if you would like.
10. Right next to the bush, sketch in a few small plants and wildflowers. **SEE PICTURE 4**
11. Add the words, "Herb Layer, Small Plants and Wildflowers" right above the plants. **SEE PICTURE 4**
12. In the remaining space on the ground, sketch a log, mushroom, and some leaves to represent the forest floor layer. **SEE PICTURE 5**
13. Right above the log, add the words "Forest Floor" **SEE PICTURE 5**
14. Right below the log, add the words (to the best of your ability) "fallen trees, leaf litter, mosses, fungi" **SEE PICTURE 5**
15. Draw an arrow pointing to the forest floor and add the words, "gets least amount of sun" along the right hand side of the page. This is to remind you that the amount of sunlight exposure decreases as you go down each layer in the deciduous forest. Sketch in a few sun rays coming from behind the largest tree if you have room. **SEE PICTURE 6**
16. Underneath the two trees, below the line you drew for the ground, add the words "fertile soil" to remind you that very fertile soil is a characteristic of a

Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest Field Journal Activity

INSTRUCTIONS

deciduous forest because of the many decomposers breaking down the leaf litter and fallen logs. **SEE PICTURE 6**

17. Right underneath the sapling tree that you drew, add the words "4 seasons" with some falling leaves around the words, reminding you that having 4 distinct seasons is a characteristic of a deciduous forest. **SEE PICTURE 6**

18. In the remaining space, sketch a giant raindrop and add the words, "Precipitation: 30"-60" per year". Draw raindrops and snowflakes around the giant raindrop to remind you that precipitation in a deciduous forest can be in the form of rain or snow. **SEE PICTURE 6**

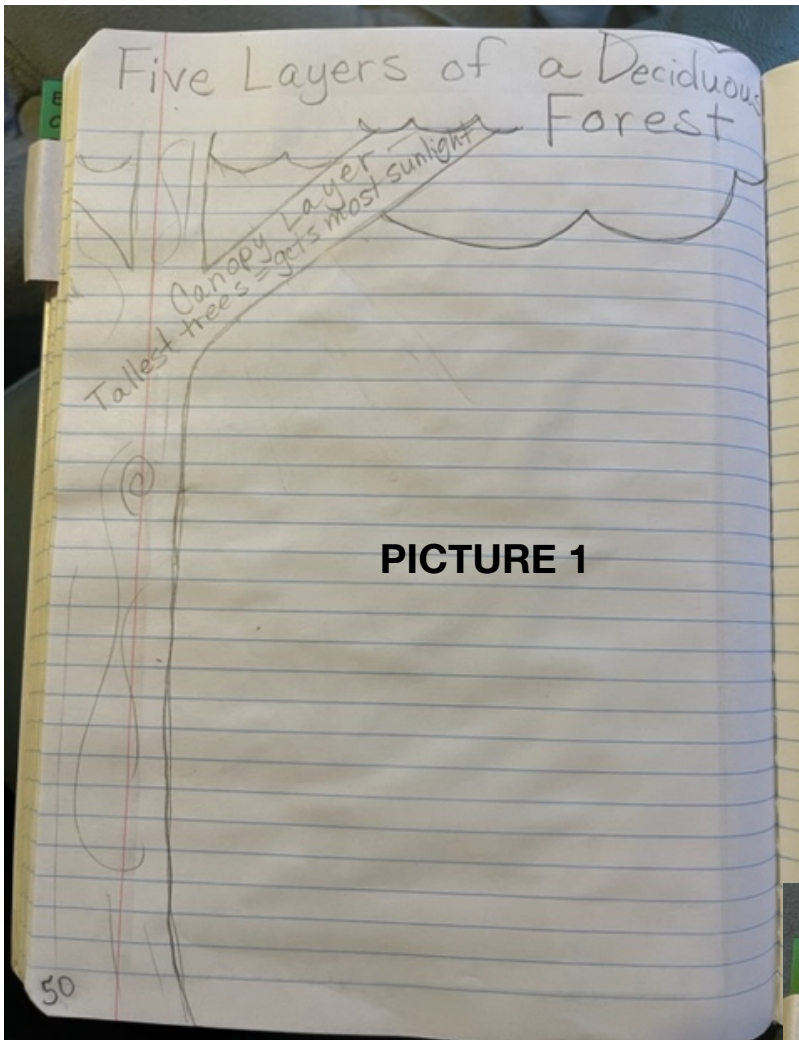
19. NOW, you may color in your page using colored pencils, crayons, or markers that will not bleed through the page. Trace over your titles and the wording with a black pen or fine tip marker if it does not bleed through the page. Do so neatly... erasing your pencil marks as you go. ALSO, when adding color, make sure you are not covering up any of the important information! Outline in color and shade in lightly so words still show up. **SEE PICTURE 7**

20. Show page 50 to a parent or grandparent and teach them what you have learned about the characteristics of a temperate deciduous forest ecosystem!

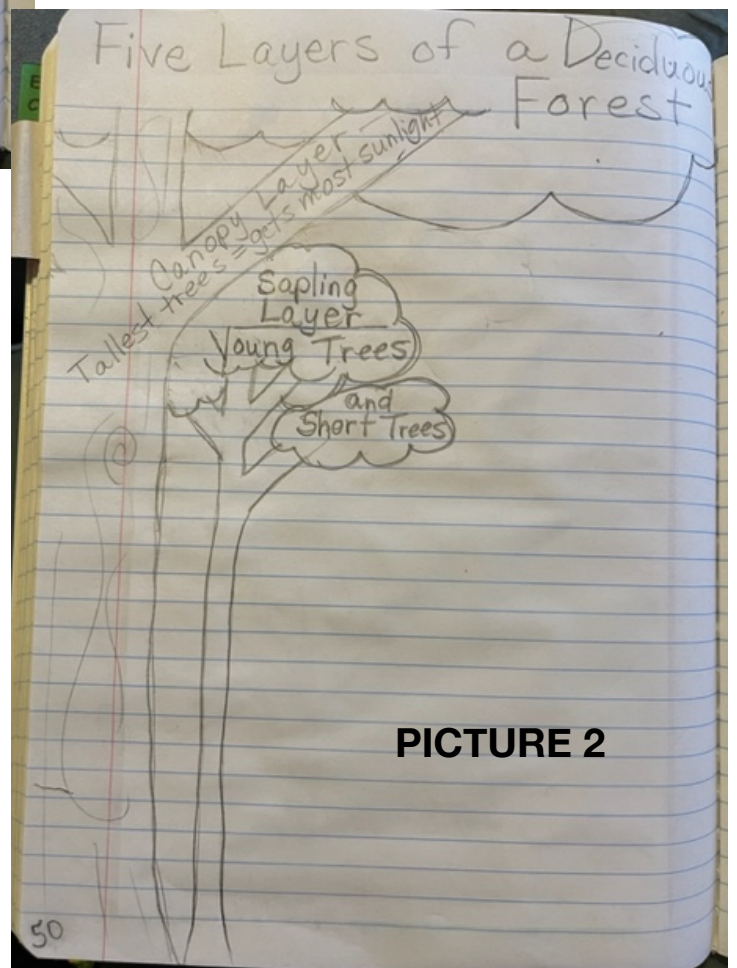
(PICTURES 1-7 ON PAGES FOLLOWING)

Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest Field Journal Activity

INSTRUCTIONS



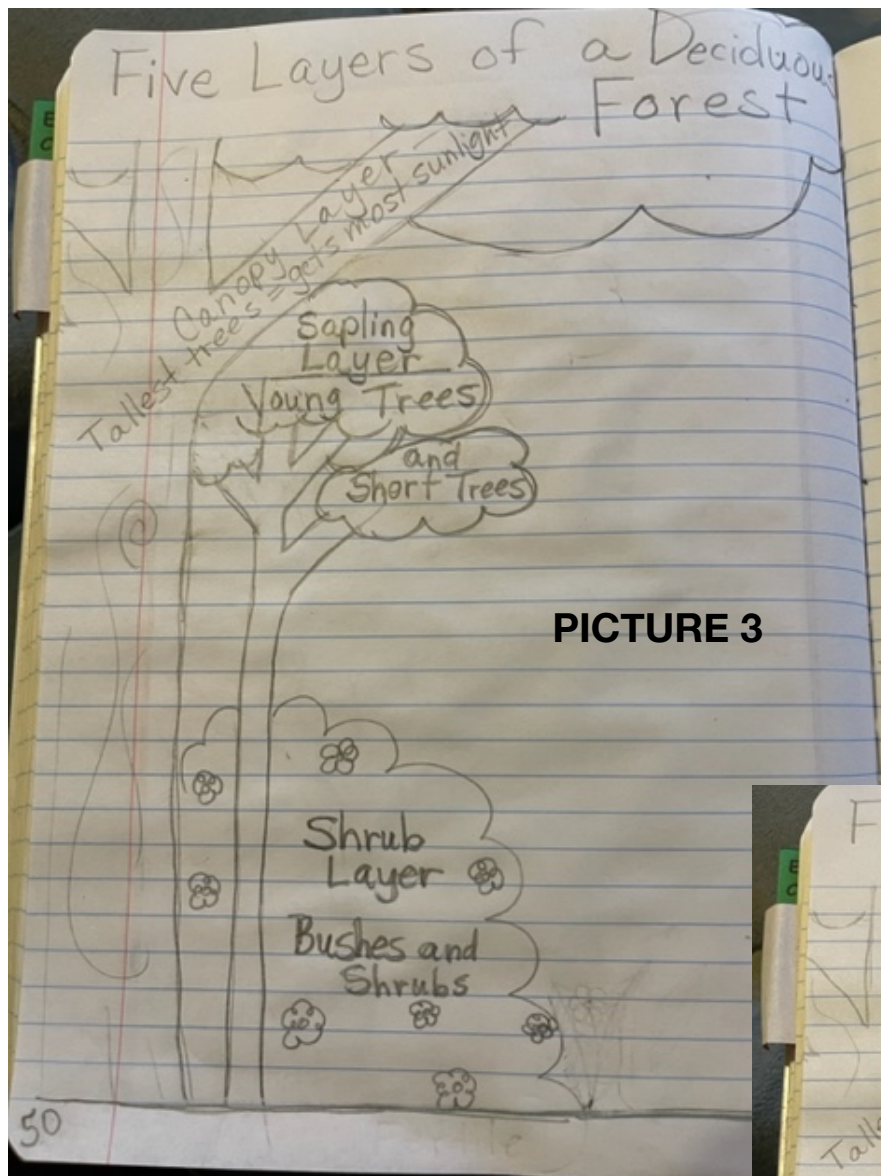
PICTURE 1



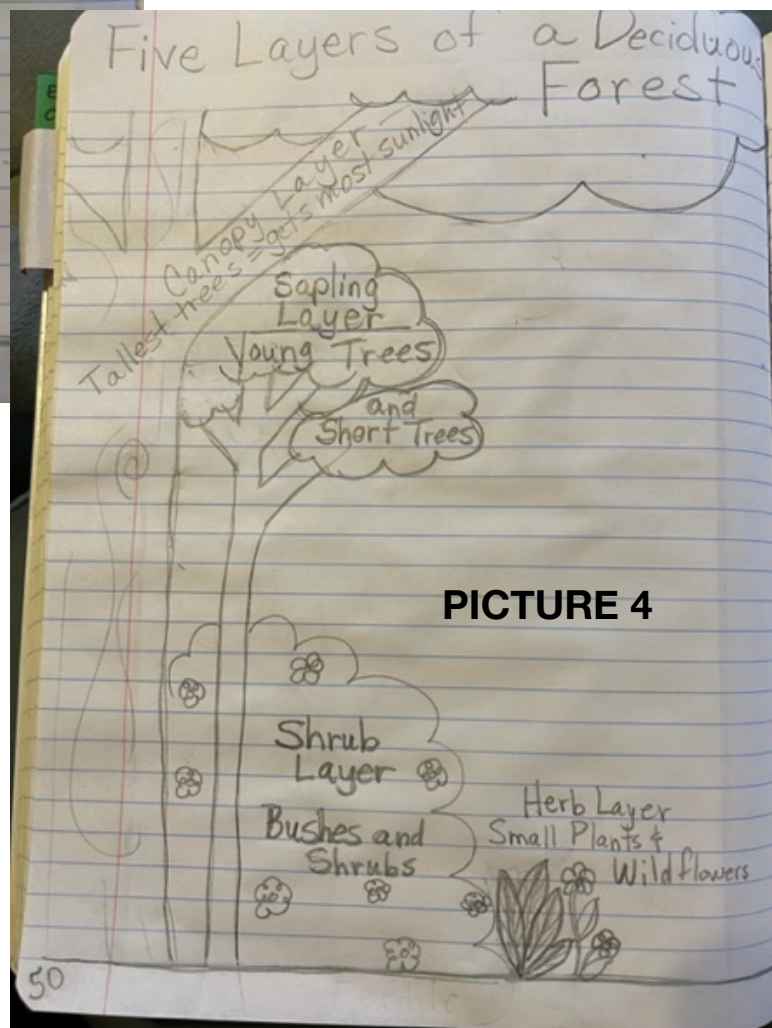
PICTURE 2

Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest Field Journal Activity

INSTRUCTIONS



PICTURE 3

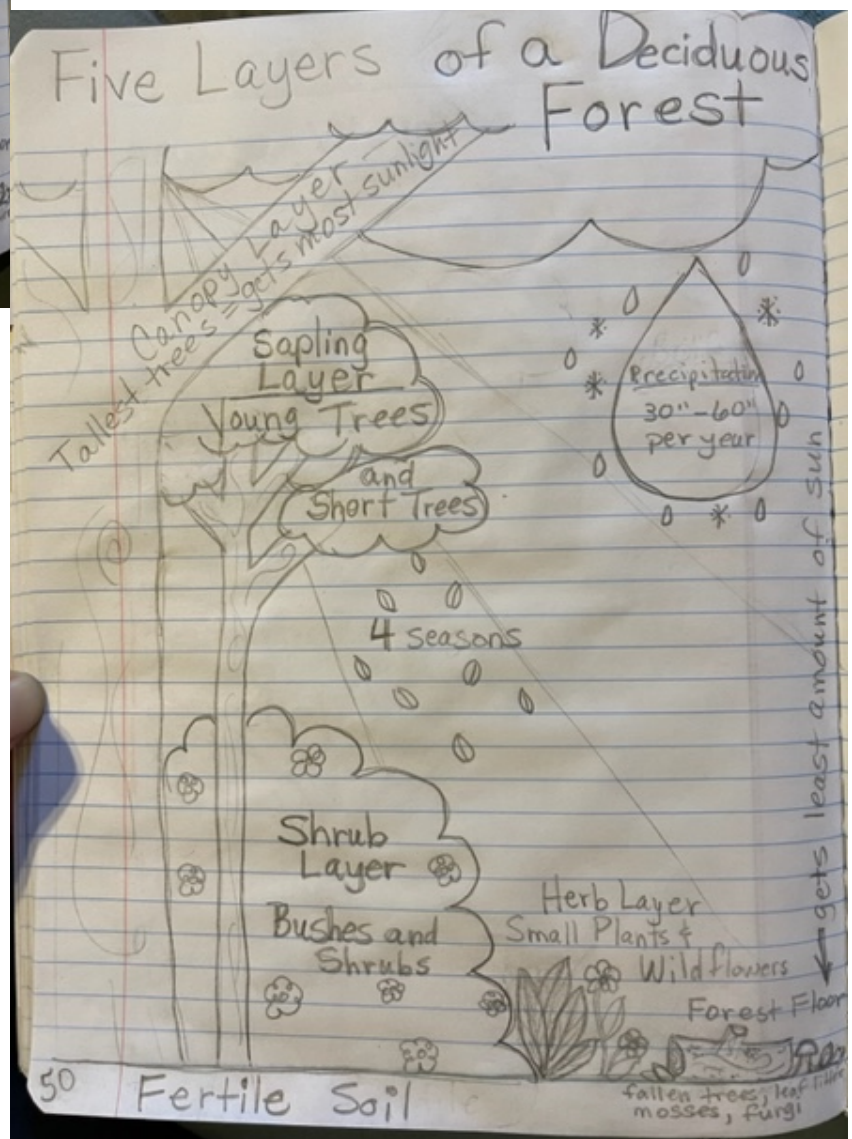
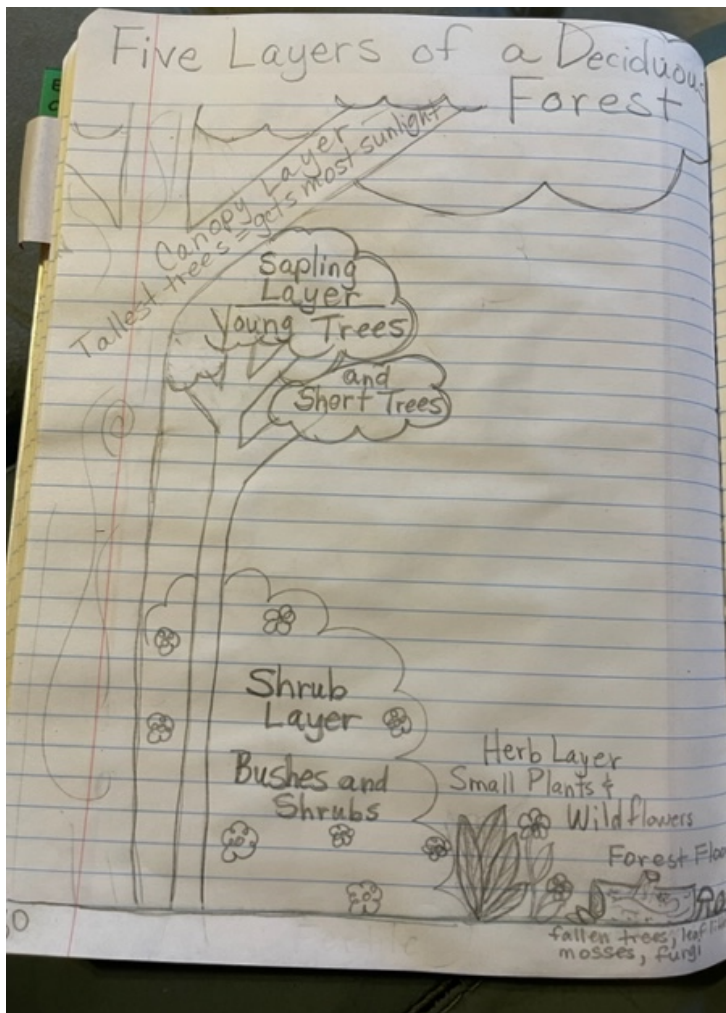


PICTURE 4

Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest Field Journal Activity

INSTRUCTIONS

PICTURE 5



PICTURE 6

Five Layers of a Deciduous Forest Field Journal Activity

INSTRUCTIONS

PICTURE 7

