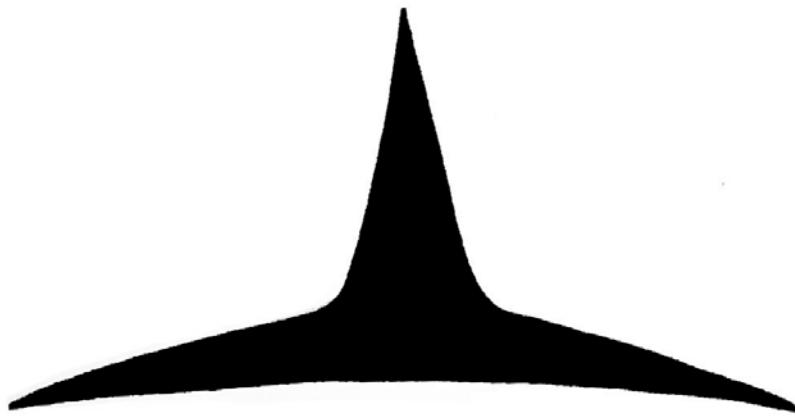


Sky High

A Bird's-Eye View



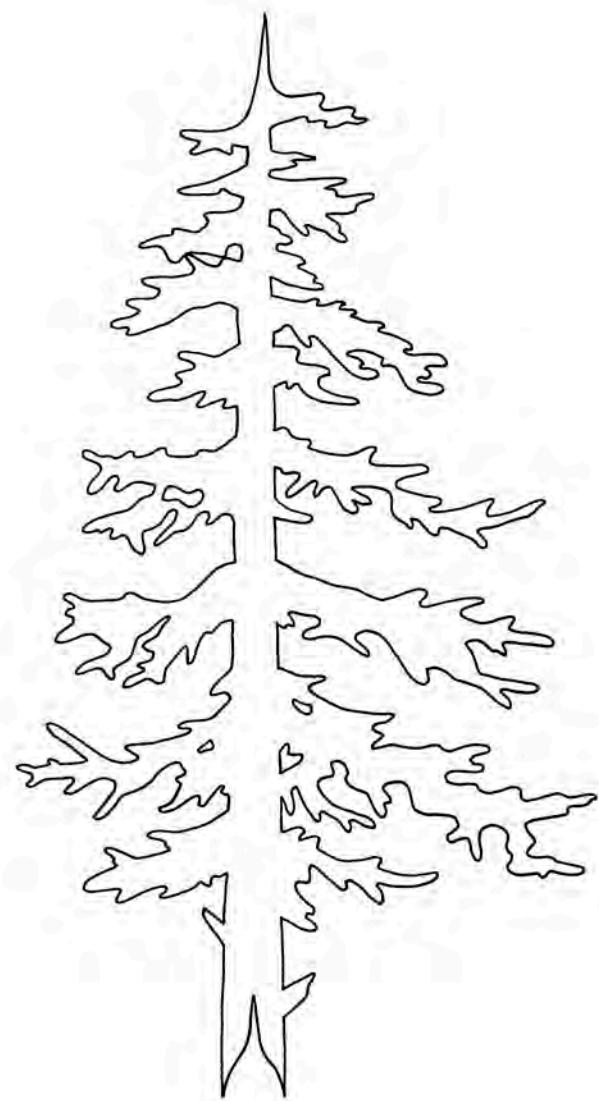
A Kwiakah-led initiative to support early childhood education.

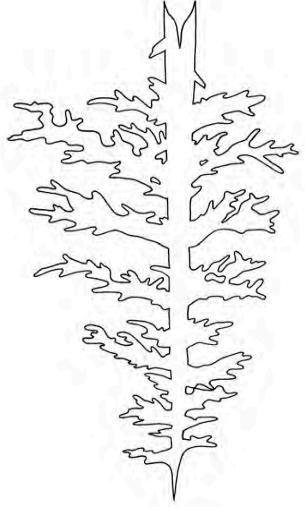


The Kwiakah Nation gratefully
acknowledges the financial support of the
BC Aboriginal Childcare Society.

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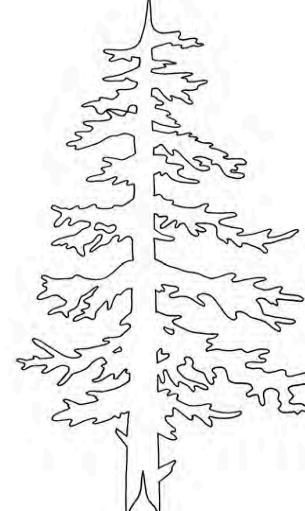
To all Lig^{wit}dax^w children, our future stewards.





Sky High in the Forest

A Bird's-Eye View



Written by Melanie Chickite and Deidre Cullon

Art by Jessica Chickite

Photography by Deidre Cullon and Len Apedaile

Translation Support by Čwixsisəlas (Emily Aitken)



Sky High

Imagine flying through the forest and soaring over the tree tops like a bird.
What do you see?



Rain



Yugʷa

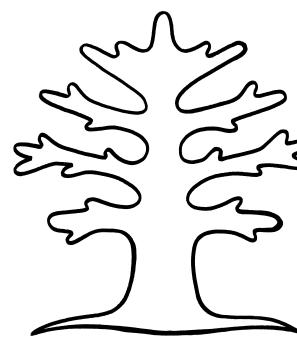
Rain brings moisture to the forest. It waters the plants and provides water for animals to drink. When it's cold, rain falls as snow. As it melts it too waters the forest.



Sun

Ḵisəla

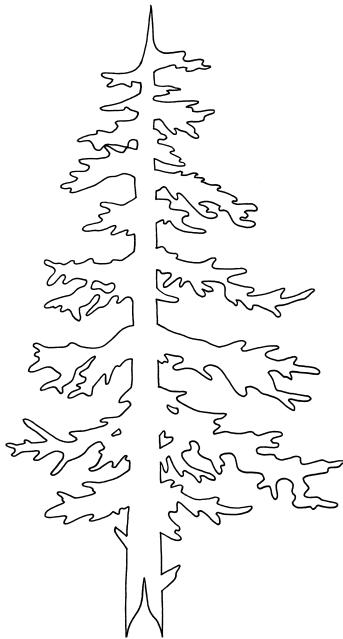
Sunshine is captured in the leaves and needles of trees. The trees and other plants use the sunlight to help make nutrients. During this process the trees produce oxygen. Animals, including humans, need oxygen to survive.



Redcedar

Dənas (redcedar bark)
Wəlkʷ (redcedar tree)

Cedar was important for our Ligʷiłdaxʷ ancestors. They used it to make all kinds of things, from diapers to cooking boxes. When a bark strip is taken from the cedar tree, the bark grows back over the "scar," healing itself over time.



Douglas fir

Ḵočm̄əs

Douglas fir trees are evergreen conifers meaning they have cones. These trees can grow to be really big, living hundreds of years! They are important habitat for many animals including squirrels, owls and ravens.

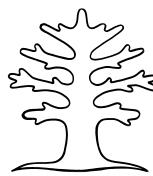


Hemlock

Ločməs



Hemlock has flat needles and a tippy tree top. Hemlock boughs or branches were placed in the ocean when herring were spawning. Herring would lay their eggs on the needles and branches so that they could be easily harvested.



Alder

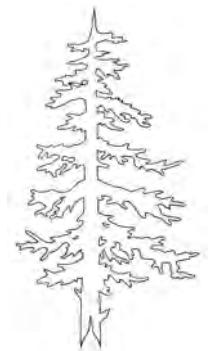


ƛaxʷməs

Alder trees grow quickly in the forest and are among the first to grow after a forest fire. They provide shade to other smaller and slower growing trees. Ligʷiłdaxʷ people used to make red dye from the bark!

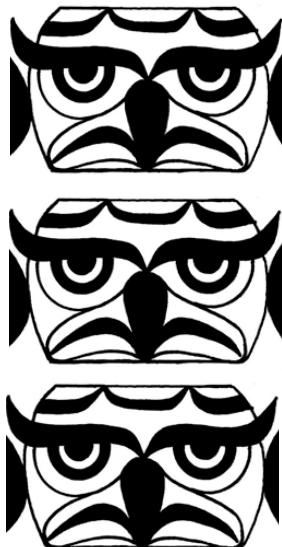


Steller's Jay



Kʷəskʷəs

Steller's Jays have a black head and a blue body. They have a crest of feathers on their head. These birds are bold and curious and will let you know if they are annoyed!



Owls

Dəxdəxəluł (Great Horned Owl)

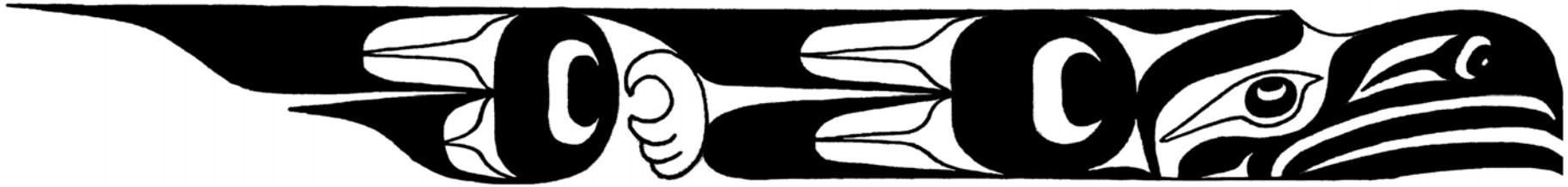
Some owls live in the forest. They fly silently so their prey doesn't hear them. Some owls hunt at night but others hunt during the day!



Bald Eagle

Kʷikʷ

Eagles like to build their nests in large trees because their nests are one of the largest in the bird world. Made of branches and feathers, their nests can be up to 2 metres across and 1 metre deep! They choose only the largest, strongest and oldest trees for nesting.



Raven

č̓w̓aw̓ina

Ravens live all over the world from open tundra to old growth forests. They build their nests with sticks, roots, mud, fur and other materials in large trees.



Turkey Vultures



Turkey Vultures are large, black birds with a red face. You can tell them from an eagle because of the "fingers" at the ends of their wings. As vultures, they only eat dead animals so they are an important part of the forest recycling crew.







Sky High In the Forest

A Birds Eye View

Imagine you are a bird, flying through the forest and soaring over the tree tops. What do you see? Why is a healthy forest so important to you?

