GLOBAL TREE INITIATIVE PRESENTS

PARTS OF A TREE

THE CROWN
The crown of the tree is made up of the leaves and branches.

THE TRUNK
The trunk of the tree supports and connects the leafy crown with its roots. It acts like a roadway for food made in the leaves to travel down to the roots and for water and nutrients from the roots to travel up to the leaves.

THE HEARTWOOD & SAPWOOD
The heartwood of the tree is known as the inner wood. It is the tree's oldest wood. Heartwood is old sapwood that no longer carries sap and gives the trunk support and stiffness. In many kinds of trees, the heartwood is a darker color than the sapwood. Sapwood is the living, outermost portion of a woody stem or branch and contains the functioning vascular tissue.

THE CAMBIUM
The cambium is a layer of cells inside the inner bark. It produces both xylem and phloem cells. Xylem is the vascular tissue that conducts water, nitrogen and mineral nutrients that are carried back up from the roots to the leaves. Phloem is the vascular tissue that conducts sugars and other metabolic products downward from the leaves to the trees’ roots which helps the tree grow.

THE BARK
The bark is the outermost layers of woody plants. It protects the tree from insects, disease, excessive heat and cold, and other injuries.

THE ROOTS
The roots absorb water and nutrients from the soil. They serve as a store for carbohydrates and form a structural system which supports the trunk and crown. A tree’s root system is typically shallow. They normally do not go deeper than 2 meters and are spread widely around the tree.