

THANK YOU, TREES

<u>Plum's Nature Sketchpad</u> is an open-ended digital drawing activity that lets kids create their own PLUM LANDING artwork. Kids can save their creation or send it to Plum for possible inclusion on the site's regularly updated galleries. If your kids don't have computer access, this can be a great pen-and-paper activity, too.

To celebrate PLUM turning two, and the NEEF <u>National Environmental Education Week</u>, head outside to try **Plum's Backyard Mission** "<u>Thank You, Trees!</u>" with your students!

- 1. Trees are an important part of our world. Trees provide shade, remove pollutants from the air, and provide homes for animals. Pick a tree and spend a few minutes observing it closely.
- 2. Now, write a thank you note to your tree for everything it does. Maybe you want to say thank you for the beautiful flowers it grows every spring, or for letting you climb on its branches.
- 3. Grow your connection with nature. Come back to Plum's Nature Sketchpad and draw your tree, then share your thank-you note and drawing with PLUM!

Use the conversation starters below to help students complete the mission.

Conversation Starters:

- 1. What trees in your neighborhood or backyard do you see every day? Which one do you like the most?
- 2. What words would you use to describe the tree? What color is the tree? Does it grow flowers or leaves? What does its bark feel like?
- 3. Have you seen any animals on or near the tree? What were the animals doing? How do you think the tree helps the animal?
- 4. How could you say Thank you to your tree?