



A Year in the Life

When students finish working through this section:

1. They will be able to describe the life of a REAL TREE farming family.

A Year in the Life was written to give students the "big picture" of what life is like on a REAL TREE operation. This section ties well with *Jobs on a Farm* and many of the activity suggestions can be used with both areas.

Possible Discussion Points/Activities:

- After students have read through the materials, ask them to illustrate the "life cycle" of a farm. They could:
 - compose a formal summary
 - design a concept map (complete with descriptive connections)
 - draw a mural
 - create a collage
 - design a game
- See how budget conscious your students really are. Provide them with a sum of "money" as their yearly salary and inform them that they will be getting paid much like the tree family in this section. In other words, that money has to support all they do for the entire year. Ask each student (or groups of students) to create a budget. Can they survive?

Words to Know in this Section:

- accounting: organizing and maintaining financial records
- daylily: an herb having yellow, orange, or purple lily-like flowers that bloom only for a day.
- fungicide: a chemical that destroys fungi (like mold and mildew)
- gourd: a hard-shelled fruit that grows on a vine; related to squash and melon
- herbicides: substance used for killing plants - especially weeds
- inventory: complete list of stock on hand; the act of making such a list
- promote: to encourage through advertising
- repellent: something that repels, as a substance that keeps away deer or insects
- shear: to cut or remove by cutting

Fast Facts in this Section:

- 34 to 36 million REAL TREES are produced each year.
- The top 5 producers of REAL TREES are Oregon, Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, California, and North Carolina.