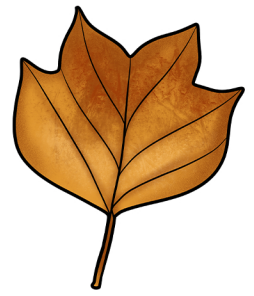


# FUN FACTS ABOUT LEAVES



## LEAVES BREATHE, TOO

Tiny openings called stomata on the bottom of leaves let air in and water vapor out, just like how we breathe through our nose and mouth.

## A LEAF HAS A SKELETON

The veins inside a leaf are like its skeleton. They carry water and nutrients to every part of the blade, just like your veins carry blood through your body.



## WAX KEEPS LEAVES DRY

Leaves are coated in a thin layer of wax called the cuticle. This keeps rain and dew from soaking in and helps the leaf hold onto water.

## LEAVES ARE FOOD FACTORIES

Leaves use sunlight, water, and air to make food for the whole plant. This process is called photosynthesis.



## SOME LEAVES NEVER FALL

Evergreen trees keep their leaves all year. Pine needles are actually leaves — they are just shaped like thin needles to help the tree survive cold winters.



## LEAVES CAN BE COMPOUND

Not all leaves are single pieces. Compound leaves are made of many small leaflets all attached to one stem. A single clover leaf has three leaflets.

## LEAVES DROP ON PURPOSE

In the fall, deciduous trees do not just lose their leaves — they push them off! The tree seals off the base of each leaf and lets it drop so it does not lose water through the winter.

## GREEN IS A DISGUISE

Leaves are not just green. They also have yellow and orange colors hiding inside, but the green chlorophyll covers them up all summer long.

## FALL COLORS ARE ALWAYS THERE

The red, orange, and yellow colors you see in autumn were hiding in the leaves all along. When the days get shorter, the green color fades away and the other colors show.

## THE BIGGEST LEAF IN THE WORLD



The Raphia palm tree grows the world's longest leaves, which can reach up to 82 feet long — taller than a seven-story building.