Rappin’ about Trees

This rap has two parts, one is printed in italics and the other in normal type. Both parts join on the chorus. A wordless rap beat playing in the background will make it easier for the rappers to move and talk to a beat. Try this in your classroom with two puppets or two students. Or have students write their own rap!

Let us tell you a story about a wonderful tree that grew for years as happy as could be. Had plenty of rain for it to drink and lots of room for its roots to sink. It had soil that was rich and sweet full of nutrients for it to eat. Plenty of space to stretch and grow nothin’ to hurt it high or low. It grew taller and wider and stronger too and used carbon dioxide out of the blue.

The leaves in the canopy waved in the wind. The roots pushed outward and anchored it in. The trunk grew thicker and rounder too and the branches stronger and longer grew.

Chorus:
It’s the 21st century— time to act!
Raise your hand and make a pact!
Conserve, be smart and plant a tree
Make the world better for you and me!

This tree’s been around for a decade or three and provides great shade for you and me.

We can build a tree house or tie a swing up in the branches and not hurt a thing!

We can have a picnic and get out of the heat when we need to rest and are ready to eat!

When a summer storm becomes a threat we can hide under the branches and not get wet!

The roots help keep the soil in place on the ground and out of our face.

The sounds of the highway get lost in its leaves and even a wind will change to a breeze (when it blows through).

A worm and an ant carved a place underground where they lived in peace without being found by birds and bugs that liked to dine on worms and ants that taste so fine—fried!

A family of beetles burrowed into the bark where they were safe and the world was dark. Until the woodpeckers found them and went to work and pulled them out with a jerk, jerk, jerk... (I hate it when that happens!)

This old tree has been a really great friend but I know someday that it won’t bend it’ll fall to the earth and spend its days giving to the soil in a million ways.

As the old log rots and turns to ground seeds will sprout and grow around!

In the fertile soil the log will make new growth will come and nature take everything she needs to redesign this rotting log into something fine!

There’s a job for you within this rap something you can do to fill the gap between the rotting log and the healthy tree there’s a wonderful op-por-tun-ity to provide the future with what you’ve had figure it out and you’ll be glad!

Knowing how important this is to me you can do one thing—plant a tree!—or two—or three!

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