



# Tree House STEM Challenge

This hands-on challenge trunk gets children excited about STEM by incorporating literacy into the STEM process. The storybook introduces the challenges in a fun, relatable way – focusing on the different elements that make for a successful tree house and explaining why they are necessary. The cost for this trunk is \$25 for a week based on availability. This includes the lesson plans and all the materials you will need for the challenge.



## K – 1 TREE HOUSE CHALLENGE TRUNK TEKS ALIGNMENT:

### Reading, Kindergarten

- (1) Understanding Across Genres  
(K.4.B) Ask and respond to questions about texts read aloud.
- (2) Understanding and Analysis of Literary Texts  
(K.6.A) Identify elements of a story including setting, character, and key events.  
(K.8.A) Retell a main event from a story aloud  
(K.8.B) Describe characters in a story and the reasons for their actions.

### Science, Kindergarten

- (1) Matter and Energy  
(K.5.A) Observe and record properties of objects, including relative size and mass, such as bigger or smaller and heavier or lighter, shape, color, and texture.
- (2) Force, Motion, and Energy  
(K.6.C) Observe and describe the location of an object in relation to another such as above, below, behind, in front of, and beside.  
Process Standards  
(K.2.D) Record data and make observations using pictures, numbers, and words  
(K.2.E) Communicate observations with others about simple descriptive investigations.

### Social Studies, Kindergarten

- Process Standards
- (K.16.A) Use a problem-solving process to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution.
- (K.16.B) Use a decision-making process to identify a situation that requires a decision, gather information, generate options, predict outcomes, take action to implement a decision, and reflect on the effectiveness of the decision.

### Reading, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

- (1) Understanding Across Genres  
(1.4.B) Ask relevant questions, seek clarification, and locate facts and details about stories and other texts.
- (2) Understanding and Analysis of Literary Texts  
(1.9.A) Describe the plot (problem and solution) and retell a story's beginning, middle, and end with attention to the sequence of events.

### Science, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

- (1) Matter and Energy  
(1.5.A) Classify objects by observable properties of the materials from which they are made such as larger and smaller, heavier and lighter, shape, color, and texture.  
(1.6.C) Describe the change in the location of an object such as closer to, nearer to, and farther from.  
Process Standards  
(1.2.D) Record and organize data using pictures, numbers, and words.  
(1.2.E) Communicate observations and provide reasons for explorations using student-generated data from simple descriptive investigations.

### Social Studies, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

- Process Standards
- (1.19.A) Use a problem-solving process to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution.

(1.19B) Use a decision-making process to identify a situation that requires a decision, gather information, generate options, predict outcomes, take action to implement a decision, and reflect on the effectiveness of that decision.