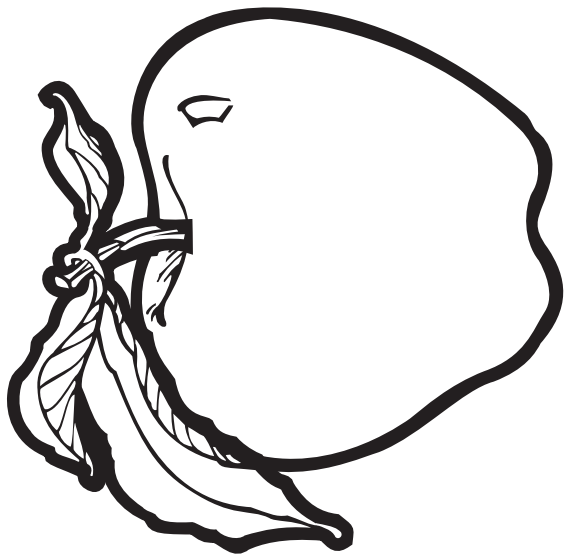
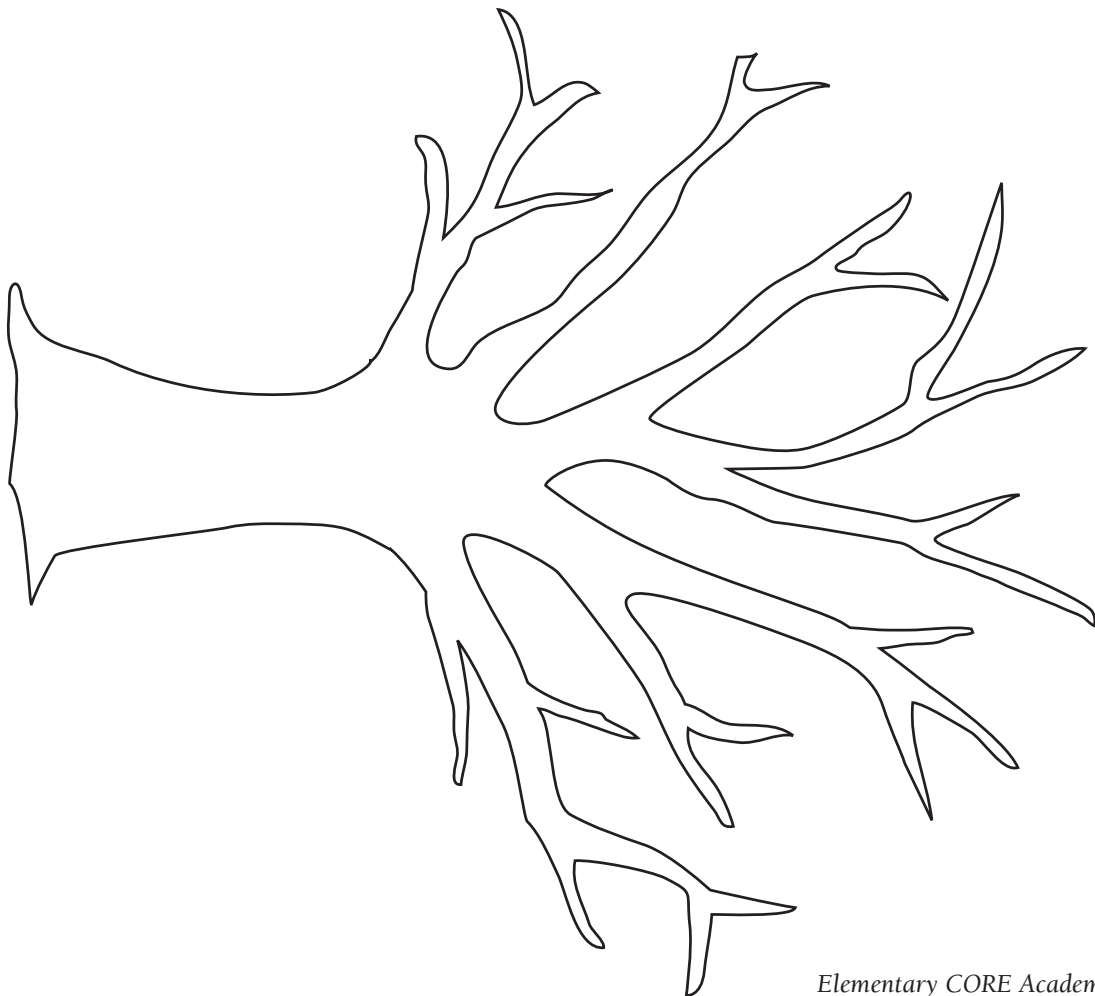


# The Apple Tree Community



Name \_\_\_\_\_



**In late fall, almost all of the apples are gone. Squirrels collect apples from the ground to hide and eat during the winter. All of the animals that eat the apples will help to scatter the seeds through their droppings. This helps other apple trees to grow. New apple trees will provide food and homes for more animals.**

**Have you ever thought of an apple tree as a community? Well, it is!**

**Insects, birds, and other animals make their homes and find food in the apple tree. The apple tree helps the animals and the animals help the tree. They help each other.**

**In the spring the apple tree is covered with blossoms. Insects drink nectar from the blossoms. As the insects drink nectar, pollen sticks to their bodies and is spread from blossom to blossom. This helps the tree to make apples.**



**In early fall, the apples are ripe. Birds, insects, deer, squirrels and other animals come to eat the apples.**

**The animals are getting ready for winter by eating lots. There won't be much food when the weather turns cold.**



**In the summer the apple tree's leaves are green and apples are starting to grow. Many animals make their homes in or around the tree.**

**A mouse makes a nest by the tree's roots.**

**Hornets build a nest in the branches.**

**Birds make nests out of sticks in the branches and come to eat insects in the tree.**

**A woodpecker makes a hole in the trunk to live in.**

**A moth lays her eggs on a leaf.**

**Beetles lay eggs on the bark.**

**A porcupine eats the bark.**

