

# The Mangrove Tree

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

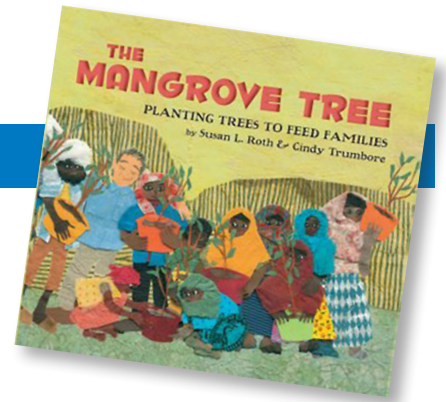
**Themes:** African Culture, Agriculture, Community, Habitats, Nutrition, Plants

**Grade Level:** 2nd to 3rd grade

**Book Brief:** Scientist Dr. Sato helps the villagers of Hargigo find a way to plant mangrove trees to feed themselves and their animals.

**Authors:**  
Susan L. Roth  
and Cindy  
Trumbore

**Illustrator:**  
Susan L. Roth



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** Visit [www.themanzanarproject.com](http://www.themanzanarproject.com) to see a slideshow of the village of Hargigo and the mangrove tree. Why is it important to help others? What are some of the needs of your own community? Can the actions of one person make a difference?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### MANGROVE MUNCHIES (AGES 5-12)

Ingredients per child: 1 rice cake, 1 oz. cream cheese, 10 pretzel sticks, blue food coloring, leaf lettuce

Mix cream cheese and food coloring in small bowl. Spread onto rice cake. Press ten pretzels into the rice cake to represent the roots of the mangrove tree coming up from the water. Use a piece of leaf lettuce in the center to represent the leaves. Enjoy!

### SALT WATER SCIENCE (AGES 5-12)

Materials: 2 clear plastic cups, water, salt, 2 carrots, ruler, scale, chart paper

Label one cup "fresh water" and one "salt water." Put one cup of water in each. For salt water, dissolve one teaspoon of salt into the water by stirring gently. Have children measure each carrot and record its length and weight. Have them describe the carrot's texture. Place one carrot in each cup. Wait one day.

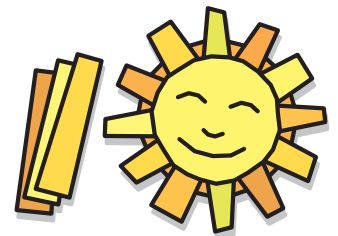
Remove both carrots from water and have children repeat their measuring and observation process from the day before. Discuss the results. Does salt water affect plants differently than fresh water? Does salt water affect people differently than fresh water?

### ART FOR CHANGE (AGES 7-12)

Materials: scrap paper, construction paper, glue

Revisit the illustrations in the story. Let children study the illustrator's technique of using paper to create images. Have children create their own pictures using different kinds of scrap paper. Display the pictures as an art exhibit.

Invite parents, friends, and community center members to visit the exhibit. Ask that each visitor bring a can of food to be donated to the local food bank.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*Gaia Warriors*, Nicola Davies (2011),

*Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*, Claire A. Nivola (2008),

*Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace*, Jen Cullerton Johnson (2010).

### TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

[www.rif.org/kids](http://www.rif.org/kids)



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