Elmer Says...

Trees have a lifecycle, just like you!

Trees are born, grow up, get sick, get injured, and grow old just like people do!

Trees are born from seeds. They can come in all kinds of different shapes and sizes!

Elm trees (like me!) Have small, oval shaped seeds called samaras.

Birch trees have long, drooping seeds called catkins.

Coniferous trees like pines, spruces, and firs have cones that hold their seeds.

Oak trees have acorns that hold only one seed.

Maple trees have seeds in samaras with wings that look like little helicopters when they fall from the trees!

Once the seed falls and gets into the ground, after some time a small seedling will sprout up!

After a few years, that small seedling will grow into a bigger sapling.

After many years, if the sapling stays healthy, it will grow big and strong and live for many more years.

Sometimes trees get injured or sick, and need some extra care.

Like all living things, trees eventually die. But trees can live on by being used for wood for homes and many other things!

www.minneapolisparks.org/elmer