




THE OLIVE TREES OF
PALESTINE





"IF THE OLIVE TREES KNEW
THE HAND THAT PLANTED THEM,
THEIR OIL WOULD
BECOME TEARS"

Mahmoud Darwish

PARENT GUIDE

Overview

Olive trees are of great significance to Palestinians. They provide a source of income for many Palestinian families but more importantly, they are symbolic of the Palestinians' attachment to their land. Olive trees have grown in Palestine for thousands of years and they hold a special place in the hearts of Palestinians. Through this package, I hope your child gains a basic awareness and understanding of olive trees, the olive harvest and the importance of olive trees to the Palestinian people.

Learning Outcomes

- Gain a basic understanding of olive trees, the olive harvest and the importance of olive trees to Palestinians
- Identify parts of an olive tree
- Collect and record data on a graph
- Trace and write letters of the Arabic alphabet

Extension Activities

To extend learning about olive trees in Palestine, feel free to explore the picture books listed below:

Sitti's Olive Trees by Ndaa Hassan

Olive Harvest in Palestine by Wafa Shami

Counting up the Olive Tree: A Palestine Number Book by Golbarg Bashi

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Credits: The mini book in this package has been designed using resources from Freepik.com

THE OLIVE TREES OF PALESTINE



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Palestine has some of the world's oldest olive trees. Some olive trees in Palestine are hundreds, even thousands, of years old!

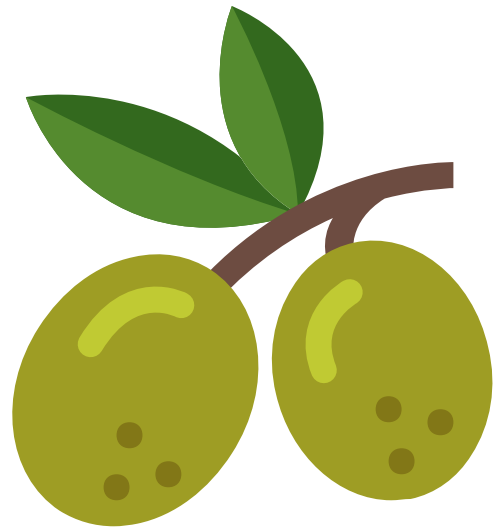
In Palestine, there are about 10 million olive trees.



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Palestinians are very proud of their olive trees. Many Palestinian families have olive trees that are passed down from generation to generation.

Palestinians take great care of their olive trees and work hard to harvest the olives.



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Each year in October, Palestinian families come together and take part in the olive harvest.

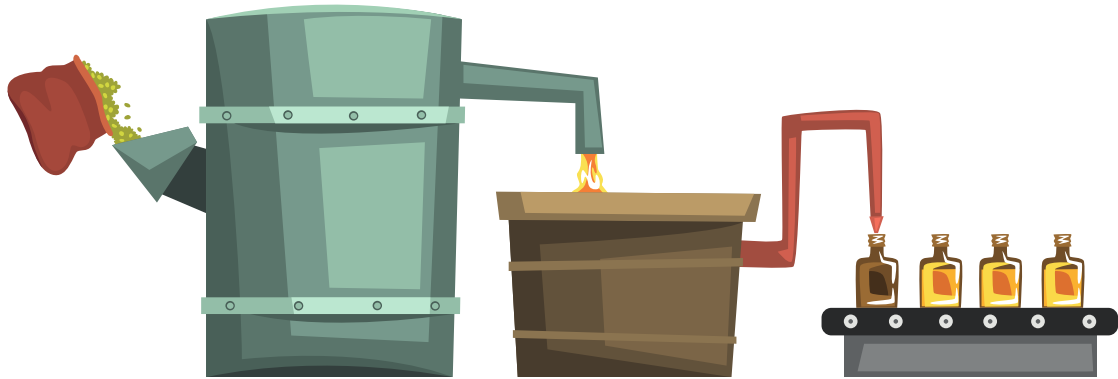
This is a very special time. The harvest is about gathering as a family and enjoying the results of hard work.

Families often take a break from harvesting and have a picnic under their trees. They share food and drink tea.



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After picking all of the olives from the olive trees, families collect their harvest and take them to a local mill. Here machines will sift, wash and press the olives until they turn into oil.



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Some families might sell their olive oil. They might also keep some oil for themselves and give some to friends and family.



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Although most of the olives from the harvest are used to make olive oil, some of the olives are used to make soap, pickles or are kept for eating.

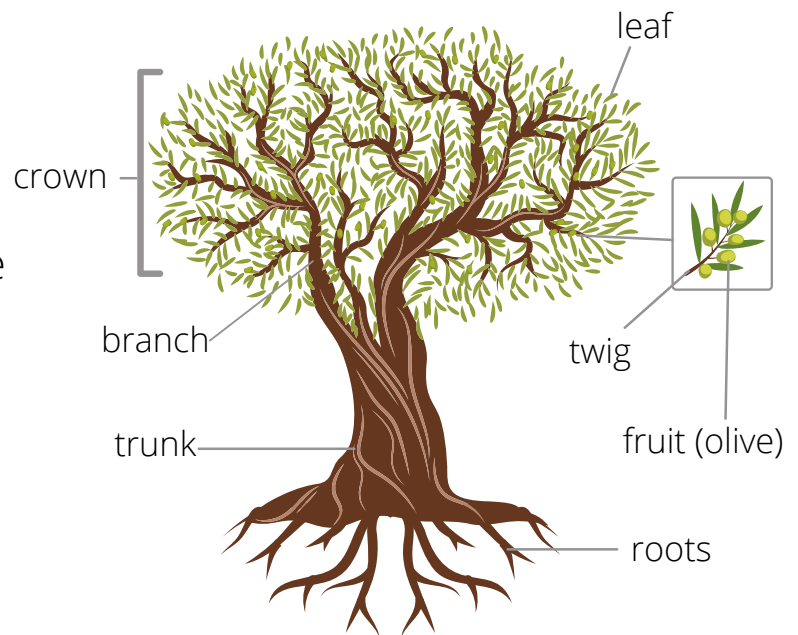


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Olive trees are an important part of Palestinian food, culture and heritage.

They are looked after with love and appreciation.

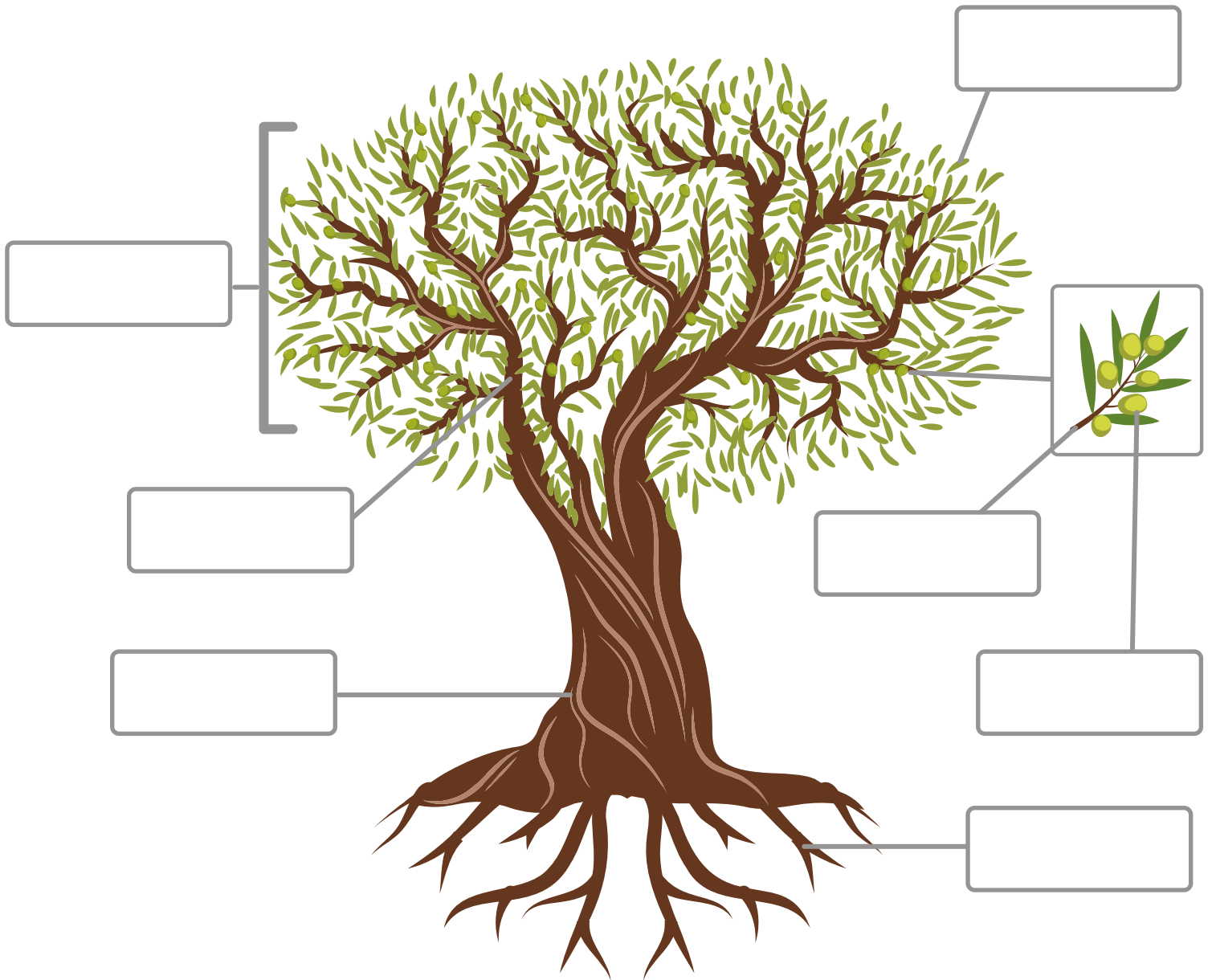
For Palestinians, the olive tree symbolizes a connection to their land and holds a special place in their hearts.



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PARTS OF AN OLIVE TREE

Label the parts of an olive tree.



WORD BANK

roots

fruit (olive)

leaf

crown

branch





twig

trunk

COUNT AND GRAPH



Count the pictures. Use a pencil or crayon to graph how many of each picture you find.

4				
3				
2				
1				
				



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Trace and write.

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