

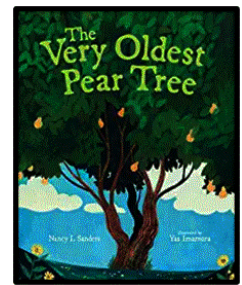
December 2021:

Pear Month

Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

THE VERY OLDEST PEAR TREE

by Nancy Sanders



Click the book to watch on YouTube

In the 1630s in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, a Puritan settler planted a pear tree—the first pear tree in America. More than a century later, the tree still bore fruit, impressing a famous poet and one of the first US presidents. The pear tree survived hurricanes, fire, and vandalism, and today, more than 350 years after it was first planted, it's alive and strong, and clones of it grow all around the US. This is the amazing true story of the Endicott Pear tree, and how it grew up with our nation.

Fun Facts:

- December is National Pear Month. Many fruits are out of season during the winter months, but pears are available nearly year-round.
- Available Aug. 1 - Nov. 30, pears are extremely well-adapted to Georgia. In fact, you can find trees as old as 50 still bearing fruit.
- There are two types of pears: the European (or French) which include varieties like Bartlett, Bosc and Anjou; and Asian pears, also known as “apple pears” because of their apple-like texture.
- The Bartlett is the most popular variety of pear in the United States but there are over 3,000 pear varieties grown around the world.

Videos:

- [Knight Orchards - Pear Farmers](#)
- [Hand-Picked: The Story of Pears in the Pacific Northwest | USA Pears](#)
- [Our Orchards with Dave Gleason - All About Pears](#)

Activities:

- [Pear craft](#)
- [A Partridge In A Pear Tree Craft](#)
- [Felt pattern for partridge in a pear tree ornament-could also be made with paper](#)
- [Christmas card students can color \(has a partridge in a pear tree on it!\)](#)
- [Pear Gingerbread Parfait](#)
- [Plant a pear tree in the spring](#)

Visit gfb.ag/aitc for more activities