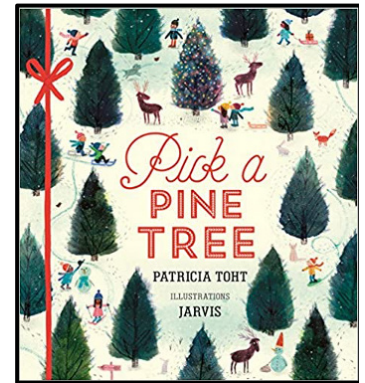


Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

PICK A PINE TREE *by Patricia MacLachlan*

Part of the magic of the Christmas season stems from the traditions that families and friends take part in every year: hanging up stockings; putting lights in the windows; and, one of the most important of all, picking out and taking home the Christmas tree. With style and warmth, debut author Patricia Toht and Jarvis, the author-illustrator of *Alan's Big, Scary Teeth*, evoke all the rituals of decorating the tree — digging out boxes jam-packed with ornaments and tree trimmings, stringing tinsel, and, at long last, turning on those twinkling lights. Joyously drawn and rhythmically written, this celebration of family, friends, and the holiday season is as merry as the tradition it depicts.



To view this book on YouTube [click here](#).

Fun Facts:

- * Some trees are sold live with roots and soil, often from a nursery, to be planted later outdoors and enjoyed (and often decorated) for years or decades.
- * Edward H. Johnson put the very first string of electric Christmas tree lights together in 1882. Johnson, Edison's friend and partner in the Edison's Illumination Company, hand-wired 80 red, white and blue light bulbs and wound them around his Christmas tree.
- * Today it is estimated that more than 150 million light sets are sold in America each year, with more than 80 million homes decorated with holiday lights.
- * The top Christmas Tree producing states are Oregon, North Carolina, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Washington.
- * Georgia has Christmas tree farms! To find a Christmas tree farm near you [click here](#).

Videos

- * Christmas Tree Farm
- * Farm Monitor Christmas Tree Farm
- * Tour of an Oregon Christmas Tree Farm

Activities

- * Guacamole Pita Christmas Tree Idea
- * Easy Guacamole Recipe
- * Cinnamon Scented Christmas Ornament
- * Pipe Cleaner Christmas Ornaments
- * Christmas STEM: A STEM Activity in a Baggie
- * How to Draw a Christmas Tree for kids
- * Life Cycle of a Christmas Tree