

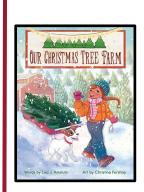
Our Christmas Tree Farm

By Lisa Amstutz

Customers have arrived at the Christmas tree farm, and Kate's whole family comes together to help—even Daisy the dog! Popping corn, setting up sleds, and bailing trees keep the family busy while they maintain a watchful eye on one truly special tree.

Throughout the years, Papa has trimmed the trees, Mom has mowed the paths, and one extra special tree was planted for Kate. She and her tree are both seven years old and—finally!— the tree has grown tall enough to be brought inside and decorated for Christmas. Little brother Henry loves the tree so much that the family decides to graft a piece of it so they can grow Henry his very own Christmas tree too.

This holiday picture book features information on how trees are grown and cared for on a farm. Extensive backmatter includes facts about Christmas trees and tree farms, how to graft a new tree from a twig, and the eco-friendly way to recycle a Christmas tree.



Fun Facts:

- Most Christmas trees are grown on farms, with around 15,000 farms across the U.S. dedicated to growing them.
- On average, it takes 7-10 years for a Christmas tree to reach the perfect size for harvesting.
- For every Christmas tree cut in Georgia, five are planted in its place! This helps grow more trees than we take, making Georgia a leader in forestry. In fact, Georgia is consistently ranked as the Top Forestry State in the Nation.
- Christmas trees are grown in all 50 states—even in Hawaii and Alaska!
- More than one million acres of land in the U.S. are planted with Christmas trees, providing fresh air and wildlife habitats.
- Georgia's Christmas tree farms grow a variety of trees, with the Murray Cypress being the most popular. The state's Christmas tree industry plays an important role in supporting local businesses and families.
- In 2022, Georgia's Christmas tree growers contributed over \$4.5 million to the state's economy.
- Georgia is home to nearly 300 Christmas tree farms, covering more than 1,000 acres across the state!

Videos:

- AgVentures to Berry's Tree Farm in Newton County
 Agventures to Skipper Family Farm in Bibb County
- Christmas Tree Farm | Nature Boom Time
- CHRISTMAS TREE | How Does it Grow?
- Blippi Visits a Christmas Tree Farm

Activities:

- Christmas Tree Card: Use fingerprints to add green to the tree and then use Q-Tips to add ornaments/lights
- Lessons: Discover Christmas Trees <u>K-2</u> and <u>3-5</u>
- Gumdrop Christmas Tree Challenge- Build, then measure to see what group has the tallest gumdrop tree
- Handmade Ornaments: Popsicle Stick Christmas Tree Frame | Air Clay | Salt Dough
- Christmas Themed Coloring Pages: <u>Option 1</u> | <u>Option 2</u>
- Bookmarks: Option 1 | Option 2
- Recipes: <u>Christmas Tree Waffles</u> | <u>Christmas Tree Dirt Cups</u>
- Craft & Food Activity: <u>Christmas Trees Made from Ice Cream Cones</u>
- Craft: Make <u>puffy paint</u> and then paint the Christmas tree. Activity page with <u>Christmas tree template and facts</u>.