Neighborhood Forest Fun Page

Unscramble these words. Write the unscrambled words on the lines below.

dashe   dwoo   reets   dofo   sowfrel   tsens   troos

Use your unscrambled words to complete the sentences below.

1) Some trees are harvested to give us the _____ we use to make picnic benches.
2) Trees can help _____ our homes and keep them cooler.
3) _____ are fun to climb.
4) Fruit trees give us delicious _____ to eat.
5) Some trees have beautiful _____ in the spring.
6) Many birds make their _____ in trees.
7) Tree _____ help hold water in the soil and reduce soil erosion.

Search the picture for things that trees provide and things that depend on neighborhood forests.

Answer Key: shade, wood, trees, food, flowers, nests, roots
1. **Water your tree**
   Keep your tree's soil moist until you are ready to plant it.

2. **Dig a planting hole**
   Dig your hole only as deep as your tree's root ball and twice the width.

3. **Plant your tree**
   Remove tree from container. Gently loosen some of the roots around the edges of the root ball.

4. **Fill your hole**
   Fill with the same soil you removed from the hole and adjust the base of the tree to be level with the surface. Do not add amendments.

5. **Add mulch**
   Cover the surface of the area around your new tree with mulch to help hold in moisture.

6. **Deep water your tree**
   Soak the ground around your tree immediately after planting for 1 hour at a trickle.
   Deep water every 3 days for 1 year. Adjust watering to the drip line of the tree as it grows, as shown.

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**Neighborhood Forests Southwest Learning Guide**

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**As Your Tree Grows**

- **Drip Line**
  - As the tree grows the feeder roots reach out to the drip line. This is the area that needs to be watered to keep your tree growing.

- **Feeder Roots**
  - As your tree grows the feeder roots reach out to the drip line. This is the area that needs to be watered to keep your tree growing.

- **Mulch**
  - Mulch is organic material that allows water to penetrate through and shades the soil beneath, protecting your tree from drying out too fast. Leaves from your yard can be used or you can purchase mulch or wood chips at a garden store.

- **Original Hole**
  - Notice that the feeder roots have grown away from the original hole. Putting water here will have no benefit to your tree now.

- **Feeder Roots**
  - Remember to deep water the feeder roots all the way around your tree.

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**For More Information**

- **AZ Nursery Association**: [www.azna.org](http://www.azna.org)
- **AZ Native Plants Society**: [www.aznps.com](http://www.aznps.com)
- **AZ Community Tree Council**: [www.aztrees.org](http://www.aztrees.org)
- **Trees for Tucson**: [tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/trees-for-tucson](http://tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/trees-for-tucson)
- **Community and Urban Forestry Program, AZ State Forestry**: [azsf.az.gov/forestry-community-forestry/urban-community-forestry](http://azsf.az.gov/forestry-community-forestry/urban-community-forestry)
- **Valley Permaculture Alliance**: [www.vpaaz.org](http://www.vpaaz.org)