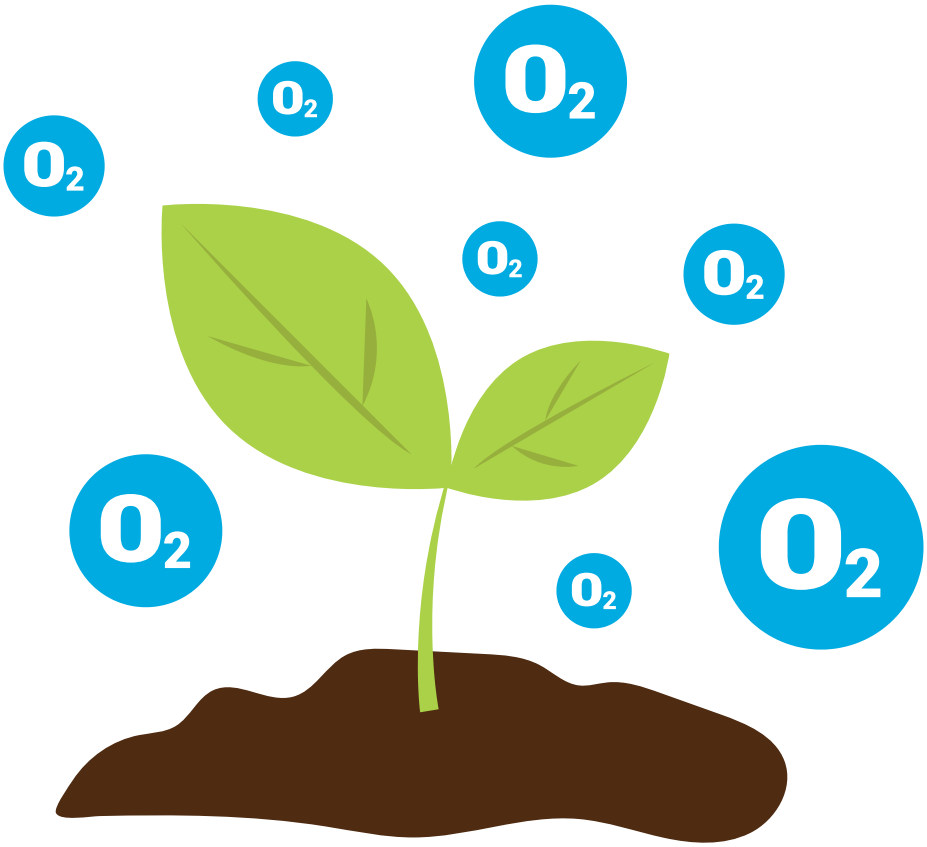
KEEP GREATER MILWAUKEE BEAUTIFUL

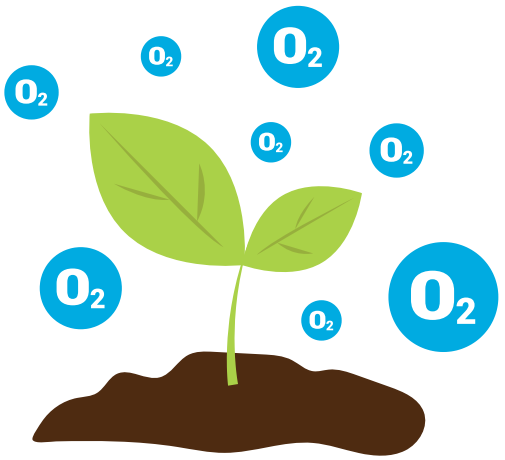
Breathing Leaves



Breathing Leaves

Objective: Observe how trees give us oxygen

One of the many reasons why trees are important is because they give us oxygen. This process is not something we can normally see, because it is on a microscopic level.

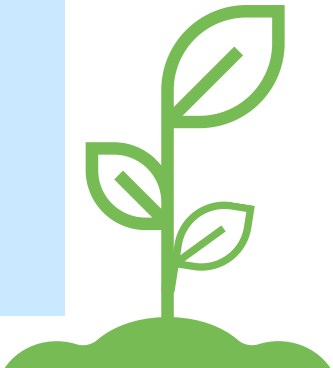


Leaves take in sunlight through cells to create food for itself and oxygen. This oxygen is released back into the air for us to breathe.

Supplies Needed

-Glass bowl
-Magnifying glass (optional)
-Leaf fresh off a tree
-Small weight or rock
-Lukewarm water

A full grown tree can produce more than 250 pounds of oxygen into the air in one year!



Breathing Leaves

1. Place lukewarm water in the glass bowl, filling it three quarters full.

2. Pluck a fresh, full leaf from a tree or plant in your yard.

3. Submerge the leaf in the bowl of water, placing a weight on top to hold it down.

Breathing Leaves

4. Put the bowl in a sunny spot outside and wait a few hours.

5. Observe the tiny bubbles that form on the leaf. This is the oxygen the plant is releasing that we breathe! Use a magnifying glass to get a closer look.

Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful

Visit www.kgmb.org for more activities

Source: https://www.kcedventures.com/blog/how-do-leaves-breathe-a-simple-science-experiment-for-kids