



Have You Ever Seen a **Red Tree?**

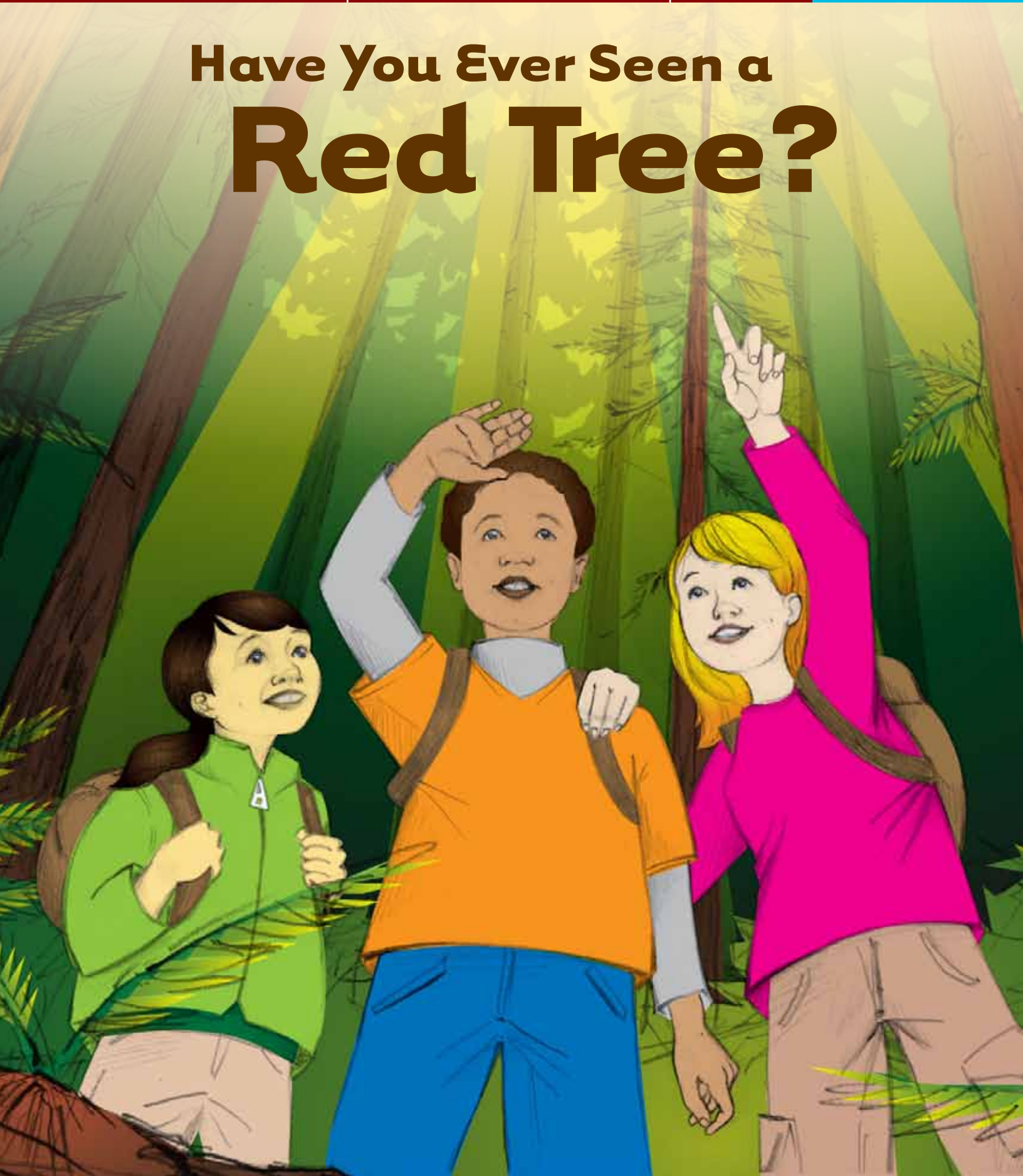




Photo: Phil Schermeister

The coast redwood is a very special kind of tree that only grows naturally in parts of California and Oregon.

It gets its name from the color of its wood. Coast redwood trees are part of a whole **forest** — a community of many different plants, animals, rocks and streams.



Apple Tree

10-Story Building

Giant Sequoia

Coast Redwood

The Tallest Trees in the World

Coast redwoods are by far the tallest living trees. Many are more than 320 feet tall!

How do redwoods get so tall? People stop growing once they are adults, but redwoods keep growing as long as they live. Some of the tallest coast redwoods have lived more than 2,000 years.

Coast redwoods live near the ocean, where it is rainy in the winter and foggy in the summer. Fog and rain give the trees water all year long, which helps these giants grow and grow.

Explore

Get together with nine friends. Hold hands and stretch your arms out to make a large circle. This is how big around some coast redwood **trunks** get. Lie on the floor and make a long line with your bodies. A coast redwood can be as tall as 90 first-graders lying head-to-toe.





Explore



Take a walk in your neighborhood to look at trees. Draw a picture that shows how trees help you live. People get shade, food (such as fruits and nuts), paper and wooden things (such as houses and pencils) from trees.



The Redwood Forest Community

Most people live in a neighborhood or **community**, and so do coast redwoods. The plants and animals in the redwood forest community help each other live.

The redwood trees are like buildings. They give other plants and animals a home. Ferns, **wildflowers** and trees live in their shade. Squirrels, owls and many other birds nest high in their branches. Raccoons, black bears and deer find **shelter** in their **hollows**. These animals move around the forest and help spread the redwoods' seeds.

Streams are also an important part of the redwood community. Fish live in them and other animals drink water from them. Redwood trees help these animals live by shading the stream with their large branches and keeping the water cool.

Every living thing in the redwood forest needs its neighbors to help it live. Without its neighbors, redwoods could not last. Without the redwood trees, this forest community would not be healthy.



Get Active



Learn More

Visit the Save the Redwoods League Web site at **SaveTheRedwoods.org**. Check out books about coast redwoods from your library.



Inspire Others

Write a letter to a friend or draw a picture about redwoods. Send your redwood art, poetry, photos or memories to Save the Redwoods League, and we might post them on our Web site!



Visit a Park

Go to a park or nature area in your community. Pick a tree or other plant and find out its name. Ask a park ranger if any coast redwoods live there.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Everything we use comes from nature. You can help trees and nature by using less and recycling what you do use.



Plant a Native Tree

Help your teacher or family find a good spot for a new tree. Choose a tree that grows well in your area. Help plant the tree and water it.



Helping Redwoods

There used to be a lot more old redwoods than there are now.

People cut them down for wood and to make room for houses and towns. They saw so many trees around them that they thought the coast redwoods could never run out.

Today, many people are working to protect what is left of the redwood forest. Save the Redwoods League helps redwoods by protecting these forests in parks. See **Get Active** for ways you can help.

About Save the Redwoods League

Since 1918, Save the Redwoods League has protected redwood forests so that people can be inspired by these precious natural wonders—now and in the future. The League and its partners help people of all ages experience these majestic trees through the forestlands we have helped protect and restore, the many education programs we sponsor and our Web site.



114 Sansome Street, Suite 1200
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415) 362-2352
SaveTheRedwoods.org/Education



Save the Redwoods League printed this publication with soy inks on chlorine-free, 100 percent postconsumer recycled paper.

If you must print this electronic version, please help conserve our forests by reusing paper or choosing recycled, chlorine-free paper made from postconsumer waste.