Big Idea: Trees are living organisms with different properties and needs.

Investigation 1: What do trees need to live? What are the parts of a tree? 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 3.5, 5.1
Investigation 2: What physical characteristics of leaves are similar and different? 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 5.1
Investigation 3: What changes in the tree are observed throughout the seasons? 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 3.5, 5.1

Timeline: Investigation 1 – 3 weeks in early Fall
Investigation 2 – 2 weeks in early Fall
Investigation 3 – 1 week each in Fall, Winter and Spring

Inv 1, Pt 1
Looking at Schoolyard Trees
What do we know about trees?

Inv 1, Pt 2
A Tree Comes to Class- Optional
What do trees need in order to live?

Inv 1, Pt 3 and Pt 4
Tree Puzzles and Tree Silhouette Cards
What shapes are trees?

Inv 1, Pt 5 and Pt 6
Tree Part Cards and Tree Part Booklets
What are parts of trees?

Inv 1, Pt 7
Adopt Schoolyard Trees
What can we find out about a tree?

Inv 1, Pt 8
Plant the Class Tree-Optional
How do we care for a tree?

Inv 2, Pt 1
Leaf Walk
What can we find out about leaves?

Inv 2, Pt 2
Leaf Shapes
What shapes do leaves have?

Inv 2, Pt 3
Comparing Leaves
How are leaves similar and different?

Inv 2, Pt 4 and Pt 5
Leaf Silhouettes and Outlines; Leaf Silhouette Games
How are leaves different?

Inv 2, Pt 6
Leaf Books
What do you know about leaves?

Inv 3, Pt 1
Fall Trees
What comes from fall trees?

Inv 3, Pt 2
Food from Trees
What food is made from trees?

Inv 3, Pt 3
Fall Tree Visit
How are Fall trees different than Spring Trees?

Inv 3, Pt 4
Leaf Shapes
Which trees do not lose their leaves in the winter?

Inv 3, Pt 5
Winter Twigs
What do tree rings and scars show?

Inv 3, Pt 6
Winter Tree Visit
How did the tree change in the winter?

Inv 3, Pt 7
Forcing Spring Twigs to Bud
What do trees need for buds to leaf or flower?

Inv 3, Pt 8
Spring Bark Hunt
What are properties of different types of bark?

Inv 3, Pt 9
Spring Tree Visit
How did the tree change in the Spring?