# Adventurer's Leaf Banner: *Forest Promises from the Trail*

## A Nature Center activity from **Papa and Baylor Go Fishing**

Create your own forest banner using paper leaves and gentle promises to help you walk kindly through the woods. Use the **Leaf Legend** to identify tree types, then write a promise on the back of each leaf before stringing them together into a banner.

**Instructions:**

1. Look through the **Leaf Legend** and choose leaf shapes that match trees you've seen.
2. Cut out 3–5 paper leaves.
3. On the back of each leaf, write one Forest Promise (see examples below).
4. Decorate or color the front of each leaf.
5. Punch a hole at the top and string the leaves together to make a banner.
6. Hang your banner near a window or door to remind you to walk kindly through nature.

### Forest Promises

Check off each Forest Promise as you complete your banner

- [ ] I will walk gently and stay on the trail.
- [ ] I will listen closely to what the forest is saying.
- [ ] I will share the trail and treat others kindly.
- [ ] I will look carefully and notice quiet things in the forest.
- [ ] I will clean up after myself and help along the trail
- [ ] I will leave the forest better than I found it.
- [ ] I will say thank You to God for every trail I walk.

### Leaf Legend

1. Maple – Big leaves with pointed lobes, often turn bright red in fall.
2. Oak – Sturdy and broad with wavy or lobed edges, strong and classic.
3. Birch – Small, triangular, with fine-toothed edges; white bark is a clue.
4. Elm – Oval-shaped with serrated edges, grows tall and full.
5. Sycamore – Very large leaves with broad lobes and spotted bark
6. Chestnut – Long and narrow with deep pointed teeth along the edges.
7. Dogwood– Smooth, oval leaves with soft points; blooms with white or pink flowers in spring.
8. Redbud – Heart-shaped and smooth; soft edges and beautiful pink blossoms in spring.
9. Poplar – Teardrop or triangle-shaped leaves that shimmer in the breeze.
10. Hickory – Compound leaves with a bold central stem and 5–9 pointed leaflets.

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