

## Tree Ring Timeline

**Purpose:** Students will make a timeline of significant events that have occurred in their lives. This timeline will be made in the format of tree rings in order to make a connection with the growing stages of a tree.

**Focus:** Understanding tree rings and how trees grow.

### **Materials:**

- Pen/pencil
- Tree ring template (attached)

### **Procedure:**

- 1) Ask students "What do tree rings tell us about trees?"
- 2) Share answers.
- 3) Tell students that they are going to make a timeline of their lives by drawing and labeling tree rings.
- 4) Have students share with a partner some significant events that they are going to include on their tree rings. Examples of some ideas are:
  - Year born - this is the inner most ring
  - Birth of younger sibling
  - Joining of a club
  - Vacation
  - Started school (Pre-k/Kindergarten)
  - Sports event
- 5) Remind students that their rings should have space between them since they have grown significantly since they were born. If rings are too close together, then it would represent a stage of no or limited growth.
- 6) Allow time for students to share their timelines.

### **Extensions:**

- Make a 3-D version using wire or pipe cleaners.
- With a partner, complete a Venn diagram comparing each other's timelines.

