

How Old is That Tree?

Name _____ Class _____

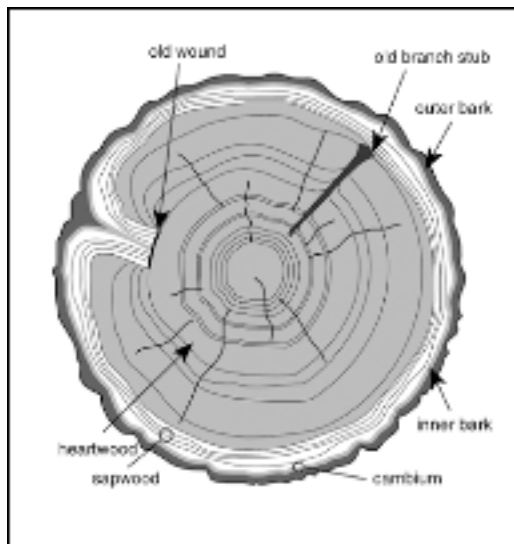
Directions: Practice counting the tree cookies below. When you are done, show your teacher and pick up your Tree Cookies! Then fill out the chart using the samples you are given. If you have time, trade with someone. Try to guess what might have caused any special features in your cookies; i.e. thin rings, thick rings, off-center heartwood, etc.

A. Practice:

1.



2.



B. Show Your Teacher and Pick up your Tree Cookies!

C. Tree Cookie Observations:

Tree Cookie #	# of Rings	Age of Tree	Special Feature (s)	Possible Meaning of Special Feature (s)

Summary Questions:

1. How many tree cookies did you observe? _____
2. How many different trees do you think you observed? _____
3. What is your evidence?
4. List the ages of each of your tree cookies in order from youngest to oldest:
5. These tree cookies were made from “downed” trees, which are trees that have fallen and died. What do you think could have been the cause of the death of these trees?
6. What types of problems did you have in reading tree cookies?
7. How did you resolve these problems?
8. Did it get easier to count tree rings? Yes or No? Why?
9. How are tree cookies and dating trees by counting tree rings examples of Absolute Dating?
10. What types of Special Features did you observe in your tree cookies?
11. What do you think the causes were for these Special Features?

