# Create your own Superhero!

Just like Ash Man, we can be tree stewards and come up with ways to slow down the emerald ash borer. Can you create your own superhero? What qualities will your superhero have to help slow down the Emerald ash borer?

My superhero's name is...

And their powers are...



#### **BE A TREE STEWARD!**

A tree steward cares for trees and helps others to do the same! Tree stewards talk to their friends about why trees are good, which pests or diseases might hurt the trees, and how they can also be a tree steward. Trees cannot speak, so it is our job to speak for them!



List 3 people you could talk to about emerald ash borer:

1.

2.

3.

Now... be a tree steward and go tell them!

### **Emerald Ash Borer**



### **Tree Inspector**

Trees are an important part of Oregon's ecosystems. If we learn how to identify and inspect trees, we can help protect and keep them healthy. For example, ash trees are being threatened by a beetle called emerald ash borer. With your help, we can learn to see the signs and symptoms so that trees can live long, happy lives. Let's practice!

### Step 1: Sketch!



#### Find a nearby tree. Draw everything that you see!

Don't forget to add details like leaf shape and bark texture. Are the leaves round or pointy? Is the bark rough or smooth?

### Step 2: Inspect!

Take a closer look at your tree. Put a check mark next to anything you see!

#### Bugs

Many types of bugs live on or around trees. Some of them are helpful for the trees, and others are harmful.

#### Cones and seeds

Trees make cones and seeds. These drop on the ground and grow into new trees. They are also food for some animals.



### Spiderwebs

Spiderwebs are homes that spiders make. Each spider creates a unique web to catch its food.



#### Fungi

Fungi are living organisms that are neither plant nor animal. They help break down dead plant and animal material and turn it into soil.



### Lichen

Lichen is an organism that lives on trees. Lichen is food for animals and helps keep the environment healthy!



#### Animals

Many animals use all kinds of trees as homes, protection, and a source of food. Keep an eye out for birds and squirrels.



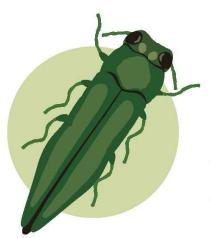
### Challenge: Identify!

There are many different types, or species, of trees. Which species did you see?

If you aren't sure, what could you do to figure it out? \_\_

### **Tree Inspector**

Step 2: Reflect!	Use this space to write about your experience. When you look at trees, your senses help you to be a better inspector. What did you see, feel, smell, and hear?
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Challenge: Identify! What is an invasive spe	
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## **All About Emerald Ash Borer!**

### **Fast Facts!**

- **\*\*** The beetles are sparkly green colored.
- It is one of the most destructive forest insects ever seen in the U.S.
- **\*** The beetles attack and kill ash trees.
- 🌟 They leave small, D-shaped holes in the bark of trees that are infested.

### **FILL IN THE BLANKS!**

Use the words in the word bank below to complete the story.

Leaves

**Tree Steward** 

Wasps

Oregon

Ash

Green



### Ash Man to the Rescue!

One day in the town of Tree City, Julie noticed that the trees
in her backyard were dying. All of thehad fallen
off the branches, and there were D-shaped holes on the trunk of the tree.
Right away, she called Ash Man. Ash Man is a
in Tree City, which means he is a superhero who finds ways to fight off
Emerald Ash Borer beetles.
He always wears the color to show how much
he loves trees! Ash Man flew to Julie's house to inspect the trees in
her backyard. When he arrived, he saw all the signs that the trees were
infested with emerald ash borer. He decided to release parasitic wasps.
These helped fight off emerald ash borer. Yay! Ash
Man and the wasps saved Julie's trees. Next, they will work on saving the
entire state of!

### **Bring the Forest To Life!**

Animals help to bring a riparian ecosystem to life! Draw some of your favorite animals and plants in the scene below. Examples of things you can draw are...

Birds **Squirrels** Fish Flowers **Beavers** Leaves

### **Catch That Crawler!**

Emerald ash borer beetles are trying to travel all over Oregon to kill our ash trees! They like to hitchhike in firewood.

Find all NINE of the green beetles before it's too late! Circle the beetles in each picture.
Then, answer the question below. Good luck!





### Remember!

Only buy firewood near where you are camping!

# Stop #2: Salem, Oregon Think about it...

What do YOU think happens when we accidentally bring emerald ash borer to new places? Write your answer below.



Stop #3: Medford, Oregon

### **Log Labyrinth**

### Did you know?

Emerald ash borer beetles find nearby ash trees and lay eggs on their bark. When the eggs grow into larvae, the larvae eat the part of the tree that carries water from the roots to the rest of the tree, making S-shaped tunnels under the bark. Without water, the tree will die!

Complete the maze to see how the larvae eat through the trees.



Read the sentences below and decide whether you think they are true or false.

TRUE FALSE

0 0

When I go camping, I should buy firewood that was cut from local trees.

Start

) (

I should always buy firewood that has been heat treated because it will kill harmful bugs that are trying to hitchhike.

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If I don't know what species of tree my firewood came from, it is better to not use it in case it is infested with harmful bugs.

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I can always tell if firewood has been infested by a pest just by looking at it!

### **Save Our Streams!**

Riparian: Areas that exist along a river or a stream. Streams are extremely important pieces of our <u>riparian</u> ecosystem in Oregon. Trees do many jobs to help streams in riparian ecosystems, including shading the water, creating homes for wildlife, and making it beautiful for us to enjoy. If pests like the emerald ash borer kill native ash trees, we lose many of those benefits.

#### Instructions:

The key to the right shows common trees you might see next to a stream in Oregon. Shade in the trees below based on the patterns listed in the key to see what our streams will look like if we lose our native ash trees to pests.

#### TREE KEY











Bigleaf Maple



HOW DO YOU BENEFIT FROM TREES?

Below is a list of benefits that trees provide. Circle which benefits you've experienced from trees in Oregon State Parks or at home!

**FIREWOOD** 

**BUILDING MATERIALS** 

**BIRD WATCHING** 

SHADE

**PLAY AREA** 

FRESH AIR

BEAUTY