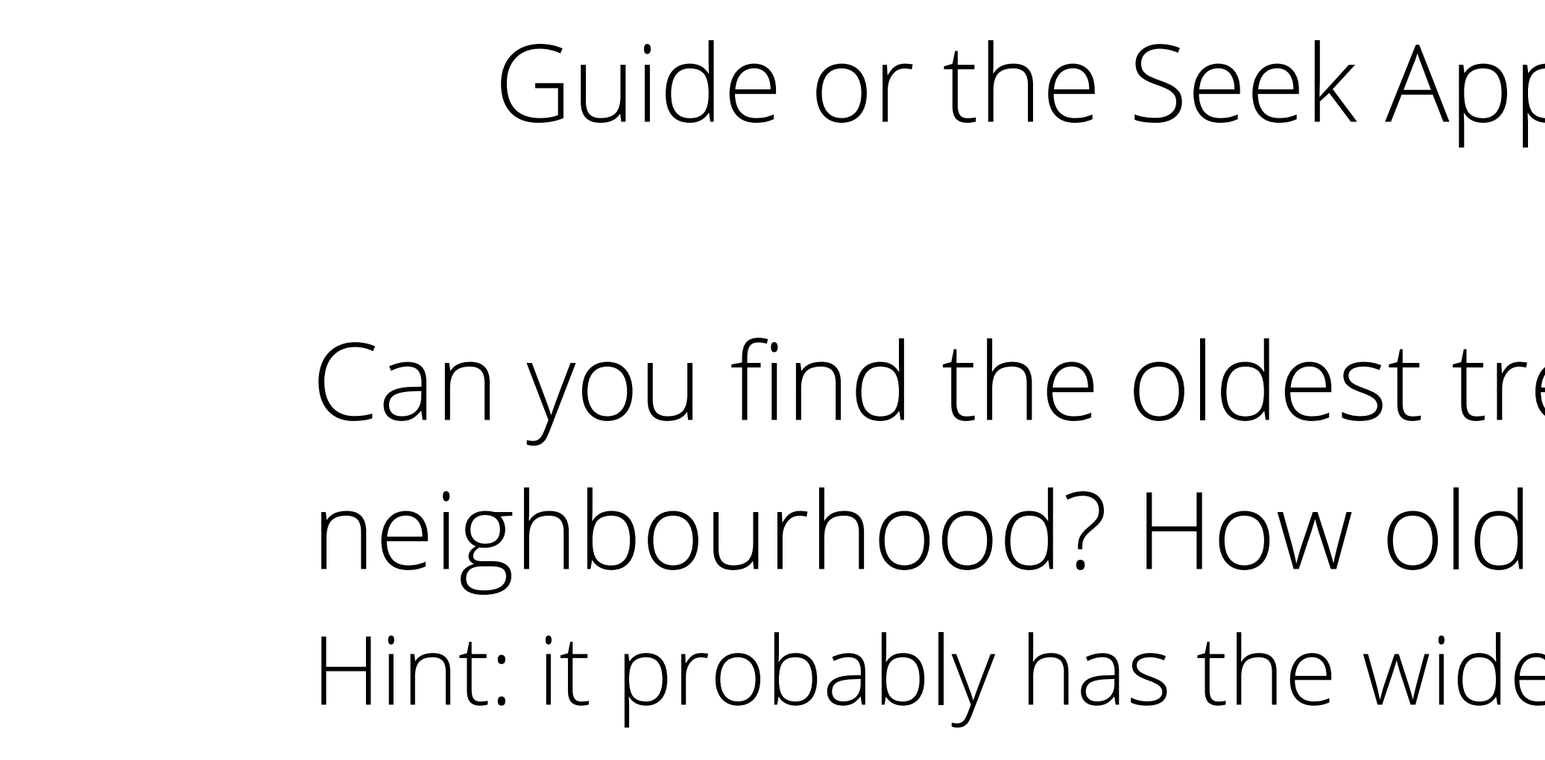
How old is that tree?

Did you know that counting rings on a stump can tell you how old the tree was? But what about living trees?

You'll need:

- a tape measure
- Coniferous or Deciduous Tree ID Guide or the Seek App

Can you find the oldest tree in your neighbourhood? How old is it?
Hint: it probably has the widest trunk!



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How old is that tree?

1. Measure the distance around the tree about 5ft off the ground in inches. That's the circumference!

Circumference = _____ in

2. Use a calculator to divide the circumference by 3.14 (pi). This will give you the diameter in inches!

Diameter = _____ in

3. Use our tree ID guide or the Seek app to determine the species of tree.

4. Find the tree species growth rate below.

Species growth rate = _____

5. Use a calculator and multiply the diameter in inches by the species growth rate. This will give you the approximate age of the tree!

Age = _____ years

Tree growth rates

Tree Species	**Growth Rate**
Red Maple Species	4.5
Silver Maple Species	3.0
Sugar Maple Species	5.0
White Birch Species	5.0
Shagbark Hickory Species	7.5
Green Ash Species	4.0
Black Walnut Species	4.5
Black Cherry Species	5.0
Red Oak Species	4.0
White Oak Species	5.0
Basswood Species	3.0
American Elm Species	4.0
Ironwood Species	7.0
Redbud Species	7.0
Aspen Species	2.0

Nix, Steve. (2020, February 11). *Estimate a Forest Tree's Age*. ThoughtCo. https://www.thoughtco.com/estimating-forest-trees-age-1343321

How old is the oldest tree in your neighbourhood?

EXAMPLE

Circumference = 32 in

Diameter = 32 in ÷ 3.14

Diameter = 10.2 in

Species = **Sugar maple**

Species growth rate = 5

Age = 10.12in x 5

Age = **50 years**

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