SYNOPSIS:

In the city of Thneedville, everything from the trees to the air is man-made and sold. So, when a Thneedville boy named Ted tries to find a real tree, he doesn’t realize the challenges and dangers he will face. After learning about the fate of the trees, the mysterious creature who speaks for them and trying to make a lasting change in the whole city, Ted will realize just how much of a difference one person who cares can actually make. So, get ready to sing, eat marshmallows and care a whole lot as we watch this week’s movie, “The Lorax.”

After the movie, check out some of our fun activities and games below to bring the adventure from the “The Lorax” into your own home!

MAKE YOUR OWN FOREST

Though they can’t speak and are only seen in flashbacks, trees are one of the main stars in “The Lorax.” The bright, fluffy trees in the magical world not only inspire Ted to begin his journey, but also to be the change that he wants to see in Thneedville. These trees are colorful and a great way to bring the magic from the movie into your own home (the Lorax would approve!). To make your own forest:

Gather your supplies:
- Paper (construction or printer paper will work)
- Cotton balls
- Markers or crayons
- Glue
- Optional: popsicle sticks

- On the paper, draw the background for your forest. You can use the movie for inspiration or design your own.
- Draw the tree trunks in the forest. If you have popsicle sticks, you can glue them to the paper to be the tree trunks.
- Color the tops of your trees. Make them big and colorful!
- Take a cotton ball and pull it into pieces. You want to have light, fluffy pieces of cotton instead of one dense ball.
- Glue the cotton to the tops of the trees.
- Make as many trees as you would like, then hang your forest somewhere where everyone can see what you have created!

If you would like more ways to be creative with your forest, you can:
- Add glitter to the tops of your trees.
- Include the different creatures or characters from the film.
- Color the cotton balls by dipping them in water with food coloring, then letting them dry.
PLANT THE SEED

Ted knew that planting the last tree seed in the middle of town was important, but he didn’t realize how hard others would try to stop him from completing his mission!

To play Plant the Seed:
• Set the boundaries for the area you are playing in – you’ll need room to move around!
• Find an item to be your “seed.” It can be anything that is easy to carry, from a stuffed animal to a can of food!
• Pick the spot that will be the center of town. You can mark it with a cup, basket or anything else that your seed will fit on or in.
• Your goal is to plant the seed at the center of town without being stopped by the other players.
• All of the other players’ goal is to try to stop you by tagging you.
• If you get the seed to the center of town without being tagged, you win!
• If you’re tagged by another player before you get the seed to the center of town, the game starts over with a different player having the seed.
• Play until everyone has a chance to try to plant the seed, or until everyone has successfully planted it!

If you would like an extra challenge in Plant the Seed, you can:
• Play in a large area, like a backyard or a park, with plenty of room to run.
• Blindfold the other players, so they can’t see you but can hear you as you try to plant the seed.
• Play with multiple players trying to plant the seed. They can pass the seed around to each other as they play and can only be tagged if they’re holding it.

LET’S READ!

Find a comfortable spot and read together!
Here are some ideas to get you started:

• The Lorax by Dr. Seuss
• How to Help the Earth – by the Lorax by Tish Rabe
• Trees by Linda Gamlin
• This is Our Earth by Laura Lee Benson

You can download digital copies of these books for free from openlibrary.org. Here is how!

1. Go to openlibrary.org.
2. Click the blue “sign up” button on the top right to create a free account.
   You will be sent a confirmation email.
3. Sign in.
4. Type the book title and author into the search bar.
5. Find your book and click the blue “borrow” button.
6. Don’t forget to return your book when you are finished reading it!
EXPLORE THE WORLD AT HOME

Want to learn more about the Earth, trees and how one person who cares can make a difference?

Check out the Sam Noble Museum’s exhibits here:
https://samnoblemuseum.ou.edu/permanent-exhibits/

or explore the researchers who work to discover new things about our world here
https://samnoblemuseum.ou.edu/collections-and-research/

You can also check out the links below!

National Geographic’s Conservation Tips for Kids

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Conservation Kids
https://www.fws.gov/international/education-zone/conservation-kids.html

Oklahoma Forestry Service
http://www.forestry.ok.gov/