

Reading a Tree's Rings

The outer bark is the protective outer layer of the trunk

The inner bark is the layer of the trunk through which the tree's food flows - it is located between the outer bark and the cambium. When this short-lived layer dies, it is called cork.

The cambium a single layer of living cells in the trunk that is located between the sapwood and the inner bark.

The heartwood is the core of the trunk, which contains very strong, dead tissue that supports the tree

The sapwood carries water and minerals between the roots, trunk, and branches. It is usually lighter in color than the heartwood.

Each ring represents one year. Larger gaps between the rings indicate more growth in a year. This could be due to more light due to thinning or better growing conditions (temperature, rain, etc.)

Draw your own tree ring diagram below:

