

The EDventures of Crypt

Episode 1: The Up-Trunk Tree

Parent / Teacher Guide with Chapter Quiz

Chapter Focus

The adventure begins when a child notices an impossible Up-Trunk Tree in a familiar yard. The episode introduces Crypt, the tiny guide bug whose name means **CR**eature **Y**ou **P**ut **T**here, and opens the central idea that ordinary places become extraordinary when we look closely.

How to Use This Chapter Guide

- Watch or read Episode 1: The Up-Trunk Tree.
- Use the guide to introduce observation, wonder, roots, soil, plant needs, and environmental responsibility.
- Discuss the questions before and after viewing.
- Have the student complete the Up-Trunk Observer Mission and Chapter Quiz.
- When the adult signs the completion statement, the student earns the Up-Trunk Observer sticker for this EDventure.

Sticker / Mission Connection

This chapter connects to the **Up-Trunk Observer** sticker. The student earns the sticker by completing the chapter quiz and mission with care and honest effort.

Parent / Teacher Guide

Episode 1: The Up-Trunk Tree

Episode Summary

A child gazing from a window sees something impossible: a tree whose trunk is where it should not be. The closer the child looks, the stranger and more meaningful the tree becomes. Crypt appears as a tiny guide from within the tree and introduces the journey ahead, where nature, responsibility, and wonder begin close to home.

Learning Goals

- Encourage careful observation of familiar places.
- Introduce curiosity as the first step toward environmental awareness.
- Connect roots, soil, water, air, minerals, and growth.
- Introduce Crypt as a guide and symbol of responsibility.
- Invite children to ask what people may overlook in their own yards, neighborhoods, and habits.

Key Ideas

- Nature can be overlooked even when it is close by.
- Trees and plants depend on healthy soil, water, air, and minerals.
- Environmental care begins with noticing.
- Fantasy can help children ask real questions about the world.

Before Viewing

- Ask students what they notice when they look outside from a window.
- Ask what trees need in order to live and grow.
- Invite students to imagine what might happen if a tree suddenly appeared upside down.
- Explain that the story uses fantasy to help us look more carefully at real places.

After Viewing

- Discuss why the child keeps looking more closely.
- Ask why Crypt appears from inside the tree rather than from far away.
- Connect the story to roots, soil, water, minerals, air, and plant health.
- Invite students to complete the Up-Trunk Observer Mission.

Go Outside and Notice

Choose a familiar place. Look for one natural detail you usually pass without noticing: a leaf, root, crack, insect, seed, shadow, feather, bark pattern, flower, weed, or patch of moss. Record what you found.

"I Wonder" Discussion Questions

1. I wonder why the tree appears upside down. Is it showing that something in nature has been turned the wrong way by human choices?
2. I wonder why Crypt comes from inside the tree instead of from somewhere far away.
3. I wonder what roots are searching for when they reach into soil.
4. I wonder why the child has to look more closely before the adventure can begin.
5. I wonder what we might notice if we looked more carefully at our own yard, street, schoolyard, or neighborhood.

Chapter Quiz

Episode 1: The Up-Trunk Tree - Up-Trunk Observer Mission

Sticker Goal

Complete this chapter quiz after watching or reading the episode and finishing the Up-Trunk Observer Mission. When an adult signs below, the student earns the **Up-Trunk Observer** sticker for this EDventure.

Student: _____

Date: _____

Part 1 - Environment Vocabulary

Match each word to the best meaning. Write the correct letter on the line.

1. ____ roots	A. Natural materials in soil that plants need to grow
2. ____ soil	B. To look or listen carefully
3. ____ minerals	C. The part of a plant that grows underground and takes in water and nutrients
4. ____ observe	D. The living ground where roots, insects, water, air, and minerals meet
5. ____ responsibility	E. The duty to care for something or respond to a problem

Part 2 - Quick Check

6. One thing roots help a tree get is:

A. water B. minerals C. support in the soil D. all of these

7. True or False: A good Up-Trunk Observer looks closely at familiar places instead of rushing past them.

Part 3 - Open-Ended Thinking

8. Why do you think Crypt wants the child to notice something strange in a familiar place?

9. What is one small thing you can do to care for a natural place near your home, school, or neighborhood?

Adult Mission Completion Sign-Off

I confirm that the student completed the Episode 1 quiz and Up-Trunk Observer Mission with care and honest effort. The student has earned the **Up-Trunk Observer** sticker for this EDventure.

Adult Name: _____

Role: _____

Adult Signature: _____

Date: _____