





## 4-H VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SERIES

Nebraska 4-H Youth Development

## The Fallen Log

Project Learning Tree, Page 105



Level: Grades 4-8

## **Summary of Activity:**

(For further information, please see activity on page listed above.)

- 1. Find a place with a dead log, or several dead logs for the students to explore. Be sure to check for holes, sharp objects, poisonous plants, and any other hazards that may be present.
- 2. Remind students to not touch anything they can't see or not go beyond a certain point.
- 3. Keep track of what is found.
- 4. Students should explore the decomposing log, disturbing it as little as possible. Use the magnifying glass, two way viewer and bug observation boxes to get close-up views of what is found.
- 5. Some discussion questions or points:
  - a. How might the tree have died?
  - b. Has the tree been dead a long time or a fairly short time?
  - c. What kinds of animals live on the bark? Under the bark? Inside the log? Under the log?
  - d. Where do these animals get the food they need?
  - e. Do any plants live on the log? How can they live without soil?



Adapted from: Project Learning Tree, The Fallen Log, p. 105. Nebraska Project Learning Tree. UNL Extension, 4-H Youth Development.

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.