

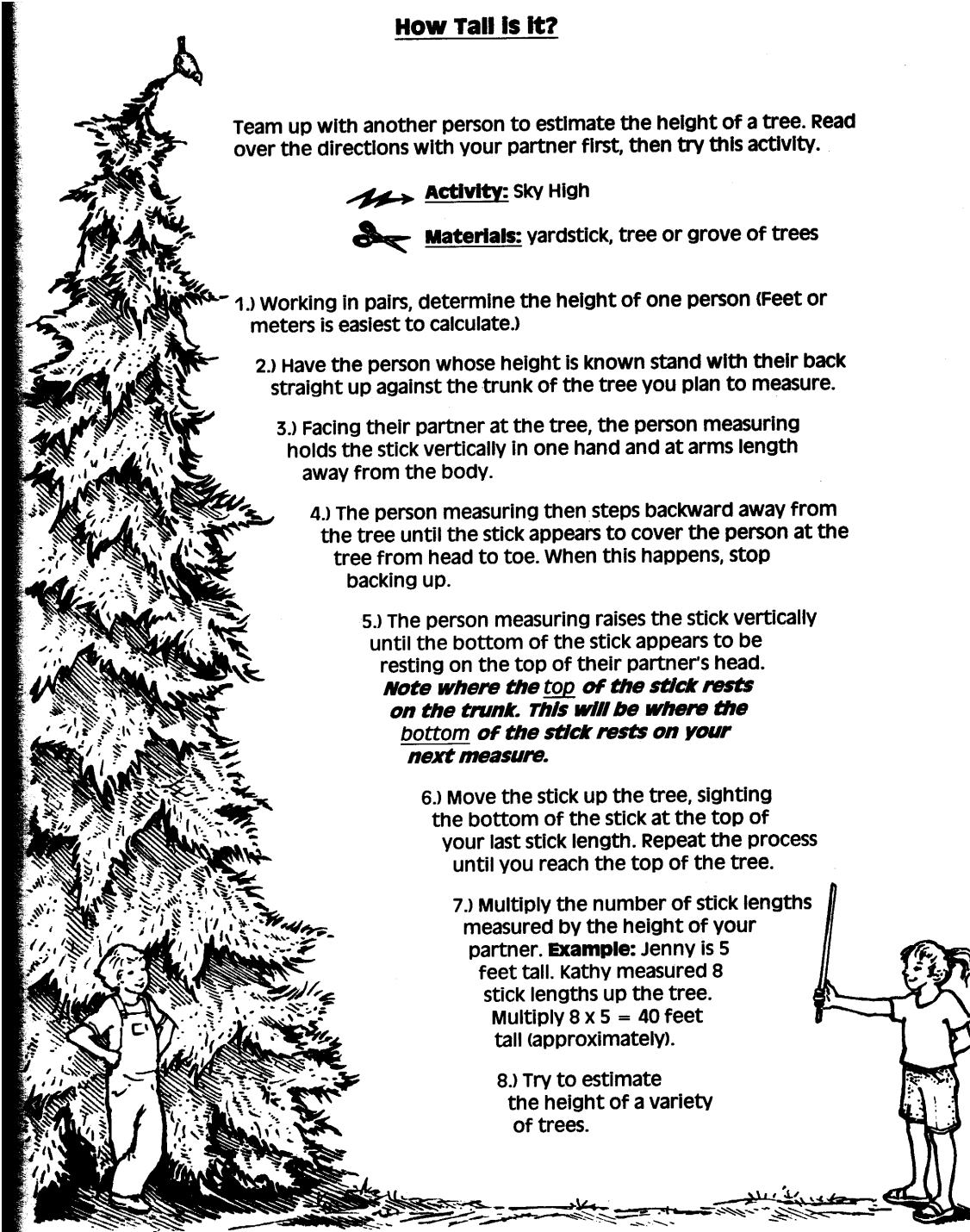
How Tall is It?

Team up with another person to estimate the height of a tree. Read over the directions with your partner first, then try this activity.

 **Activity:** Sky High

 **Materials:** yardstick, tree or grove of trees

- 1.) Working in pairs, determine the height of one person (Feet or meters is easiest to calculate.)
- 2.) Have the person whose height is known stand with their back straight up against the trunk of the tree you plan to measure.
- 3.) Facing their partner at the tree, the person measuring holds the stick vertically in one hand and at arms length away from the body.
- 4.) The person measuring then steps backward away from the tree until the stick appears to cover the person at the tree from head to toe. When this happens, stop backing up.
- 5.) The person measuring raises the stick vertically until the bottom of the stick appears to be resting on the top of their partner's head.
Note where the top of the stick rests on the trunk. This will be where the bottom of the stick rests on your next measure.
- 6.) Move the stick up the tree, sighting the bottom of the stick at the top of your last stick length. Repeat the process until you reach the top of the tree.
- 7.) Multiply the number of stick lengths measured by the height of your partner. **Example:** Jenny is 5 feet tall. Kathy measured 8 stick lengths up the tree. Multiply $8 \times 5 = 40$ feet tall (approximately).
- 8.) Try to estimate the height of a variety of trees.



Source: *Totally Tree-mendous Activities* by Sarah Hollister