



# Street Tree Solutionary Unit

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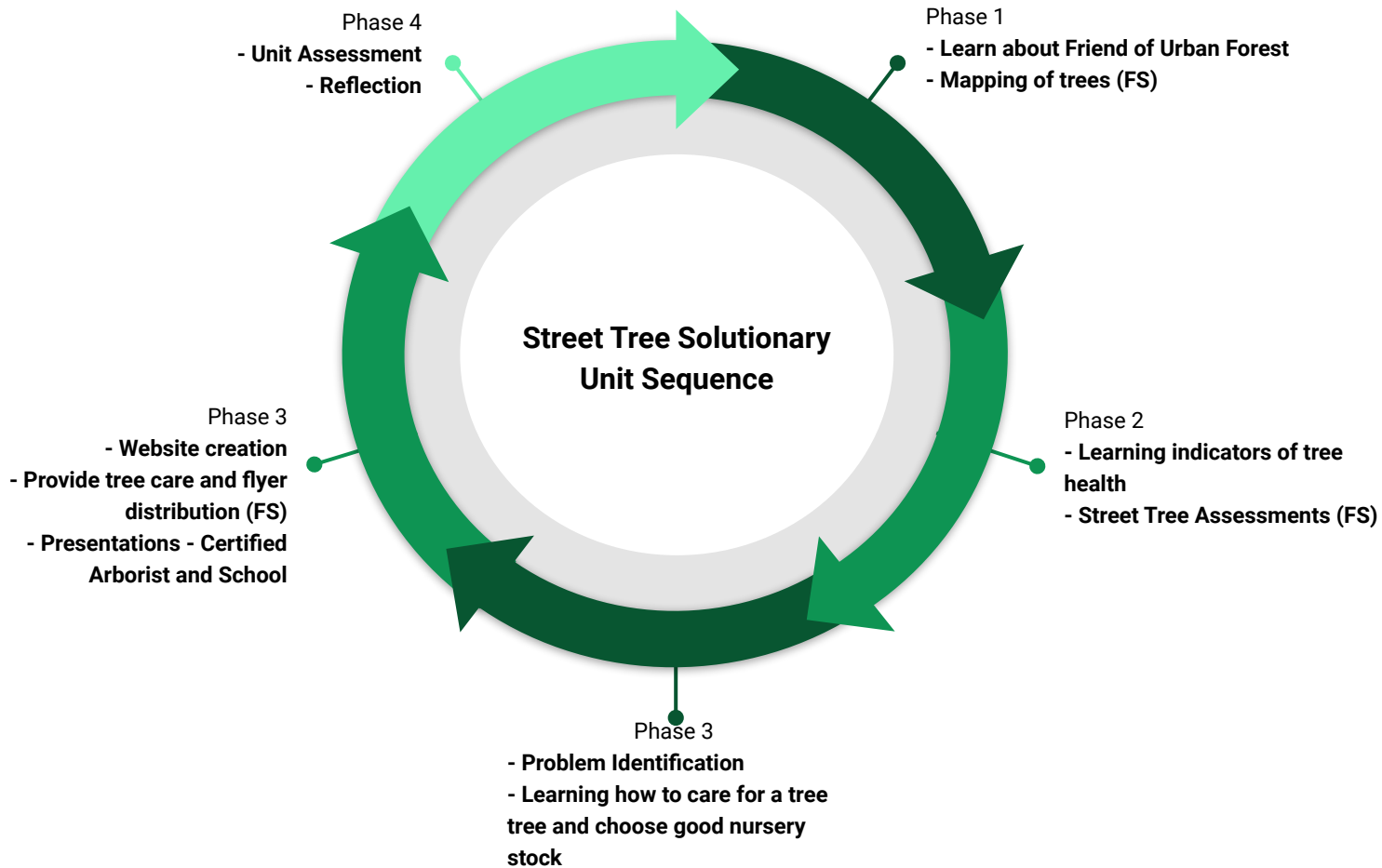
# Unit Overview

Title: Street Tree Solutionary Unit

Environmental Topic: Ecosystems

Essential Question: **How can we have street trees that are alive and healthy?**

Enduring Understanding: Students will understand what makes a tree healthy and apply that knowledge to discover how to plant and maintain healthy trees along the streets of San Francisco.



# Unit Sequence

## Phase 1:

- Build foundational knowledge about Friends of the Urban Forest and historical/current importance of trees
- Field study mapping of young FOUF street trees in neighborhood

## Phase 2:

- Learning specifics about indicators of young tree health
- Field study to assess previously visited street trees

## Phase 3:

- Identifying and writing out main problem
- Learning how to care for a street tree and choose good nursery stock
- Website/flyer creating to share learned information
- Field study to provide limited tree care and pass out informational flyers
- Presentations - Certified Arborist and School Community

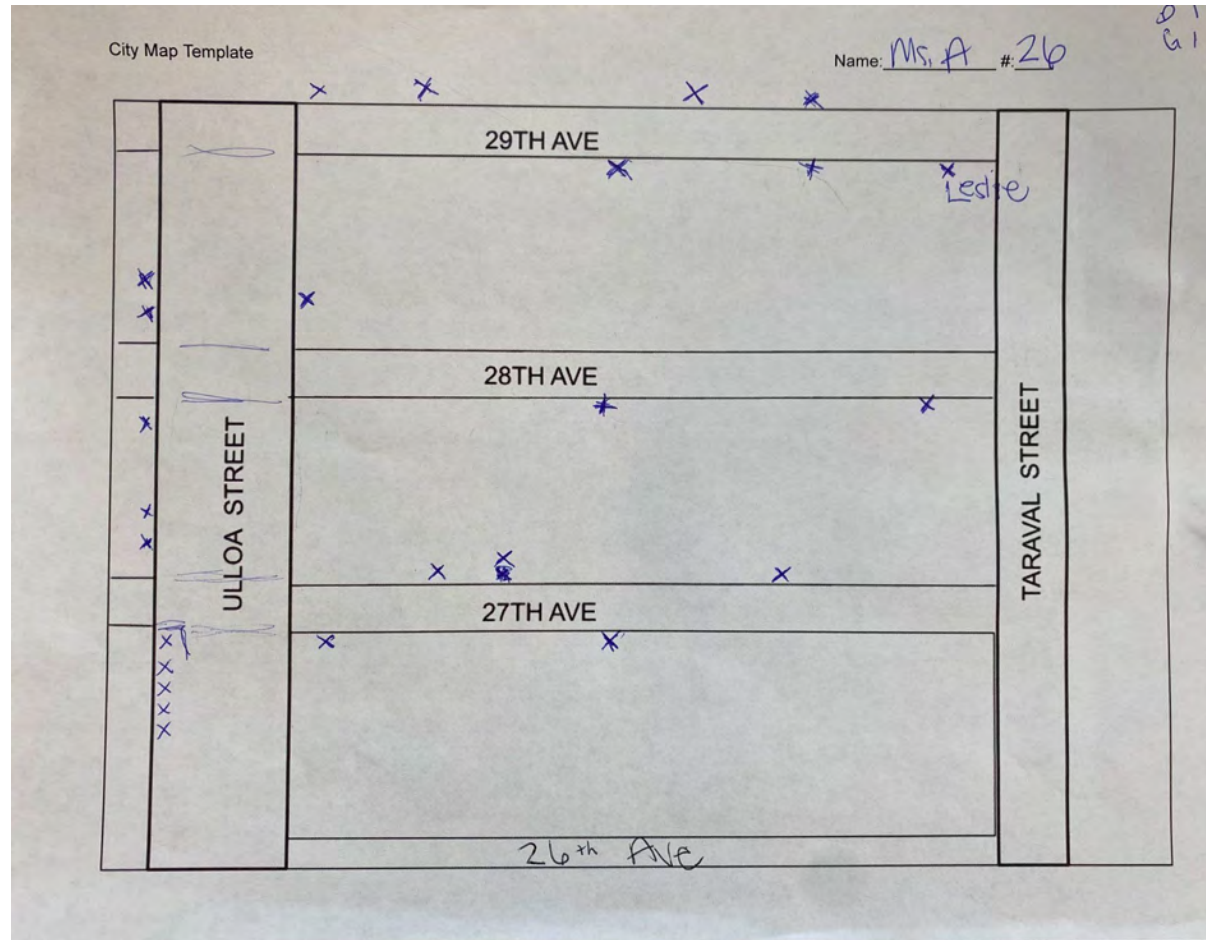
## Phase 4:

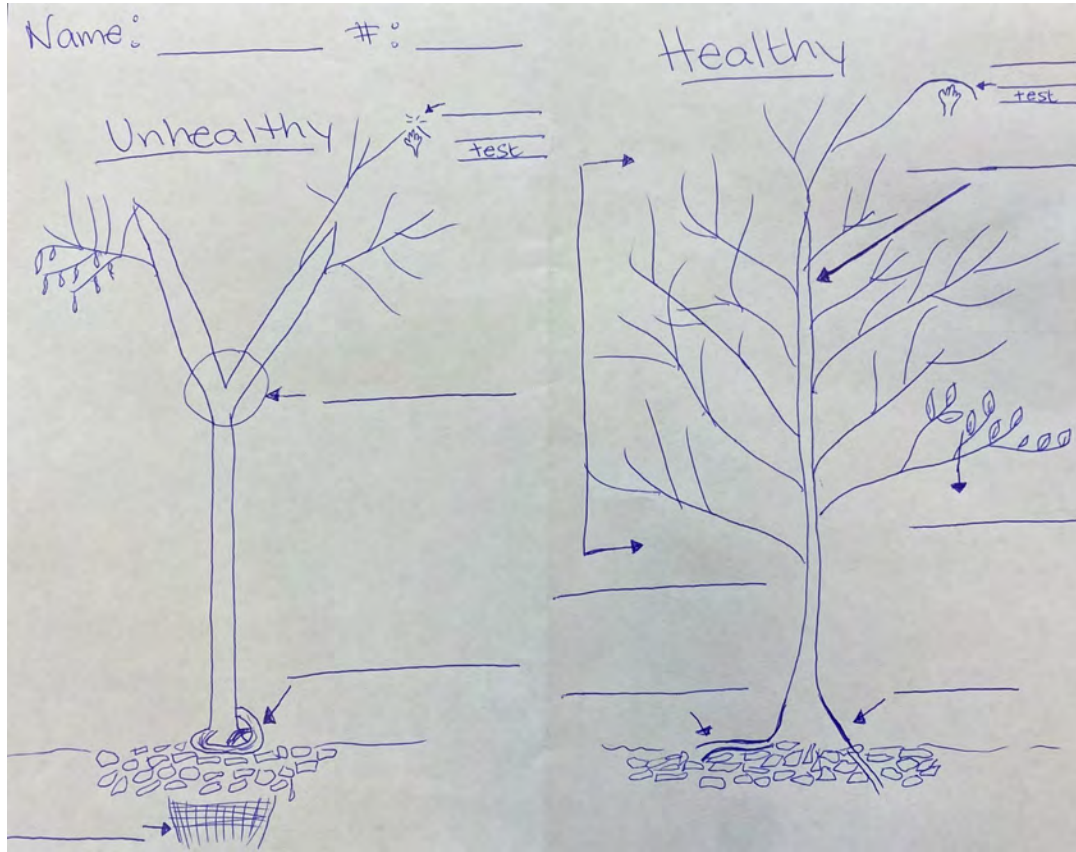
- Unit Assessment and Reflection

# Phase 1 - Foundational

## Foundational Knowledge

## Field Study - Mapping





# Phase 2 - Learning

Specific Indicators of young tree health



# Phase 2 -Field Study Health Assessment



Tree Label: A

Healthy Factors +1	UNhealthy Factors - 1
Visible Lateral Roots	<u>Girdling Roots</u>
Passed the branch test	<u>Failed the branch test</u>
Live Crown Ratio + 50%	<u>Live Crown Ratio &lt; 50%</u>
<u>Clean/Upright Leaves</u>	Wilting leaves
<u>Central Leader</u>	Codominance
	Nursery Mesh

Circle each one that you see

SCORE: -1

Tree Sketch

# Phase 3



Problem discovery: Young street trees in sunset neighborhood and unhealthy and uncared for.

Solution Discovery:

Website creation

Sharing:

- Certified Arborist
- Neighborhood Community
- FOUF
- School Community



Do you  
care about  
the  
environment?

If so learn how  
to care for your  
street tree

5 ways to make sure your  
street tree is healthy

1. Clean it
2. Free it
3. Water it
4. Feed it
5. Help it breath

***You've got this!***



**GO TO OUR  
WEBSITE  
TO LEARN  
MORE!**



**DOES YOUR STREET  
TREE HAVE 50%  
LIVE CROWN  
RATIO?**



# Learning Sequence: Solutions

Student actions: Brainstorm possible solutions to the problem - who can make an impact on these trees

How: Educate community, Friends of Urban Forest, provide some tree care

# Evidence of Student Learning

- Street Tree [Flyers](#)
- Student Websites - [Sutori](#)
- Quiz Results



HOW TO TAKE CARE FOR

# Street Trees

SAN FRANCISCO

1. WATER IT- ONCE A WEEK IF YOU CAN
2. HELP IT BREATHE - CLEAR AWAY MULCH/LITTER/WEEDS FROM THE ROOT FLARE
3. FEED IT- GIVE IT EXTRA NUTRIENTS
4. CLEAN IT- RINSE THE LEAVES FOR BETTER PHOTOSYNTHESIS
5. FREE IT- REMOVE THE TREE STRAPS AFTER ABOUT A YEAR

*If you want every tree in the world to be healthy and have a healthy environment, then follow these steps!*





# Instructor Reflections

The students really came away from this unit with a LOT of knowledge about the importance of trees and tree health.

The students were **in the field** performing the tasks of certified arborists as fourth graders! The students are able to use **advanced arboricultural vocabulary**.

It is clear that the students see trees in a different and more meaningful way than before.

They also felt like they had the power to **effect change in their community** and bring attention to a community problem.

