

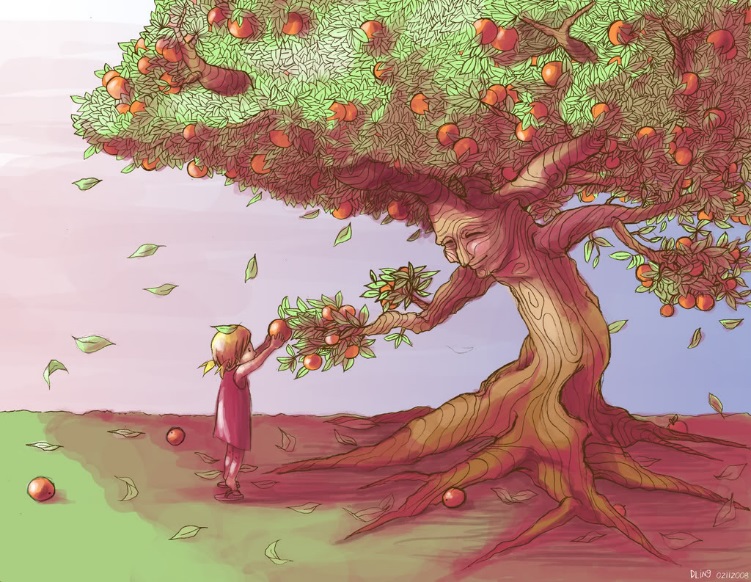
**3rd Grade Curriculum Guide Book Summary**

**Book title: The Giving Tree**

**Author:** Shel Silverstein

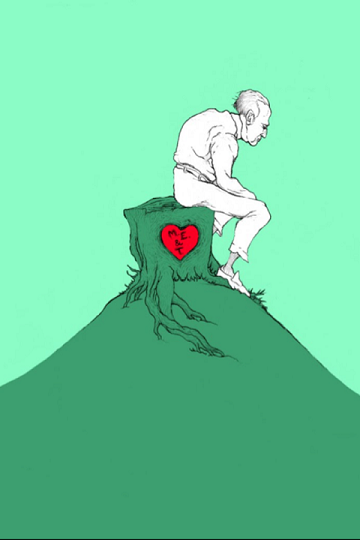
**Main characters:** A Tree and a Boy

**Executive summary:** A tree gives everything she has to a boy she loves, but the boy is only interested in what the tree can give him.

**Detailed summary**: There once was a tree who loved a boy. The tree would play with the boy. The boy made crowns from the tree’s leave and pretended to be a king. The boy would climb her trunk, swing on her branches and eat her apples. The boy would sleep in the shade of the tree. He loved the tree and the tree loved the boy. That love made the tree very happy.

As the boy grew older, that love changed. The boy didn’t visit the tree much anymore. The tree was lonely and sad. Then one day the boy came back to the tree. The tree wanted the boy to play, to climb her trunk and swing on her branches again. But the boy was older and he was only interested in money now. The tree told the boy he could have her apples and sell them to get money. So the boy climbed up the tree and picked all the tree’s apples. And the tree was happy.   
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The boy went away and didn’t come back for a long time. When he did come back, the tree wanted him to climb her trunk and play again. The boy, who was a man now, said he was too busy to climb. What he wanted now was a house and a family. The tree told the boy to cut her branches to build his house. So the boy cut off all the tree’s branches and carried them away to build his house. The tree was happy.

Many years later, when the boy was a much older man, he came back to the tree. The tree was very happy to see the boy. She wanted him to play. The boy said he was too old to play, what he really wanted now was to build a boat. The tree told him to cut down her trunk and use it to build a boat. So the boy cut down the tree, leaving only a stump. He carried off the trunk to make it into a boat. And the tree was happy.

Years later, when the boy was a very old man, he came back to the tree, now just a stump. The stump said she had nothing left to give him. He had already taken her apples, her branches, and her trunk. Now too old and frail to play or climb, the boy only needed a place to sit and rest. The stump told him to sit on her to rest. And so he sat down on the stump, which made the tree happy.