**TICCIT POWERPOINT PRESENTATION SPEAKER NOTES**

SLIDE 2

Thanks so much for having me here today!

My name is… (Tell the kids who you are, where you work, and what you do. Introduce any guests with you.)

SLIDE 3

Today we’ll be learning all about trees, how paper is made, and why recycling is important.

SLIDE 4

Let’s start by talking about age.

**QUESTION: Who knows how you can tell how old a tree is?**

(LET KIDS ANSWER)

**ANSWER:** Each ring on a tree equals one year of age. The wider the distance between rings, the healthier the tree was that year.

**QUESTION: What does a tree need to be healthy?**

(LET KIDS ANSWER)

**ANSWER:** Healthy means that the tree received a lot of rain, sunlight, and nutrients from the ground.

SLIDE 5

**QUESTION: How old do you think some trees can live?**

(LET KIDS ANSWER)

**ANSWER:** The age of a tree depends on the type of tree, but most can live as long as a human. However, some can live as old as a few hundred years, such as a Redwood tree. This Bristlecone Pine tree from California is the oldest tree in the world—it is 4,844 years old and is still growing!

SLIDE 6

﻿Trees are important because ;

* They create a habitat for birds, squirrels, and insects;
* Provide shade for smaller plants; and help keep soil from eroding.
* Trees also remove carbon dioxide from the air and **create the oxygen we need to breathe**.
* When trees die, their leaves and branches break down and give vitamins back to the soil
* Plus, we make a lot of things from trees!

SLDE 7

﻿Here are a few things we make from trees.

**(REVIEW EACH ITEM ON SLIDE WITH KIDS)**

Did you know that you and your family use things made from trees every day?

* The chair you’re sitting on, the table you’re sitting at
* Your cereal box, even your gum in made from tree bark!
* The paint you use in art class and the syrup you put on your pancakes.

**QUESTION: Can you tell me some other things that are made from trees?**

(LET KIDS ANSWER)- ALLOW 3 Responses

SLIDE 8

﻿**QUESTION: Raise your hand if you’ve heard of Photosynthesis before.**

(KIDS TO RAISE HANDS)

**ANSWER:** Photosynthesis is how plants turn sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide into food and oxygen. The sun (light energy), water, minerals, and carbon dioxide are all absorbed by the plant.

The plant then uses them to make glucose/sugar, which is the energy/food for the plant. Oxygen is also produced by the plant in this cycle, which is then let off into the air!

SLIDE 9

﻿Today, trees are grown and harvested like a crop such as cotton or corn. Because we now plant approximately 3 trees for every tree we use, forests are growing bigger and bigger.

SLIDE 10

Now let’s talk about how carton board and paper is made.

The process starts with logging. First the tree is cut down in the forest,

SLIDE 11

The logs are then loaded onto a truck and brings the logs to the mill.

SLIDE 12

At the mill, the logs are unloaded from the trucks and then chipped into small pieces.

SLIDE 13

Then they’re mixed into a large vat with water to create pulp

SLIDE 14

The pulp is flattened out into long reels, like you see here, to make paperboard.

SLIDE 15

The paperboard is then dried and then rolled onto huge spools, like you see here. Each roll is the height of a tall adult!

SLIDE 16

Next, the paperboard is cut down to size so that it can be fed through a printing press

SLIDE 17

Then it can be cut into shapes and folded into boxes.

SLIDE 18

Paper and card can actually be recycled up to 7 times before its fibers become too short to use. Even then, the material is still not thrown away by recyclers, but used in other ways. Very little paper or card actually ends up in the landfill.

SLIDE 19

**QUESTION:** Can anyone tell me what this place is called?

**(LET KIDS ANSWER)**

**ANSWER:** This garbage truck is dumping the trash into a landfill. When you throw your trash away, it ends up in a place like this, which is a bad thing because trash takes up a lot of space and can sometimes poison the water and the land. That is why it’s so important that we all recycle as much of our waste as we can.

SLIDE 20

**PROMPT: Raise your hand if you recycle at home**

(WAIT FOR KIDS TO RAISE HANDS)

**PROMPT: Now raise your hand if you recycle at school!**

(WAIT FOR KIDS TO RAISE HANDS)

**QUESTION: What are some of the things that you recycle?**

 (PICK A FEW STUDENTS TO DESCRIBE WHAT THEY RECYCLE—paper plates, plastic bottles, etc.)

**PROMPT: Raise your hand if you think we could all do a better job recycling**

SLIDE 21

Paper is recyclable, renewable, and biodegradable. Remember that paper does not need to end up in a landfill, as it can be used for other purposes, even after it can no longer be remade

SLIDE 22

Let’s recap. Today we learned that trees are not only important to our planet because they create the oxygen that we breathe, help to make the soil healthy, and are home to many animals and insects, but trees are also very important to us because of all the things we can make from them, like paper and packaging. What is MOST SPECIAL about trees is that any time we cut down a tree, we can plant a new one in its place. AND because the paper that is made from trees is recyclable, it is not harmful to the environment.

SLIDE 23

**QUESTION: Who would like to take a young tree, called a sapling, home with them to plant outside?**

(LET KIDS RAISE HANDS)

We learned that cartons are biodegradable so we can use these cartons (show the empty cartons you brought or milk cartons the school provided) to transport your sapling home to plant into the ground. Who’s ready to help me?