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HIKE & SEEK

Which Twig?



Oak
Oak twigs have a cluster of buds at the tip.



Maples and Ashes
Maple and ash twigs have one large bud at the tip flanked by two smaller buds.



Bitternut Hickory
Bitternut hickory twigs have long, slender buds at the tips that look almost like paintbrushes dipped in yellow paint.



American Beech
The longest, pointiest buds in this region belong to American beech trees.



Catalpa
The only whorled tree in this area is the catalpa with three leaf scars ringing the twig at each node.



Sassafras
Sassafras twigs remain green throughout the winter and are aromatic when broken or scratched.



Basswood
Bright red, or sometimes green, buds ornament the zigzag twig of the basswood.



Tulip
Tulip tree buds are somewhat flat, resembling a duck bill.



Black Walnut
The black walnut's gray fuzzy buds top large "monkey face" leaf scars.



Willow
Willows twigs look lumpy with dense, alternate buds.



Cottonwood
It's hard to mistake the large, pointy cottonwood bud, which is often described as gummy.



Sycamore
Conical buds poke out at each bend of the sycamore's zigzag twig.