

FUN FACTS

THE BAOBAB TREE

Known as “The Tree of Life”, the strange-looking baobab tree is found in low-lying areas of Africa, Madagascar, and Australia. To many people, the baobab tree is a symbol of life and positivity.

Other names of the baobab tree are tabaldi, bottle tree, baob, monkey bread tree, and the dead rat tree. It's also known as the “upside-down tree” because its branch formation resembles that of a cluster of roots.

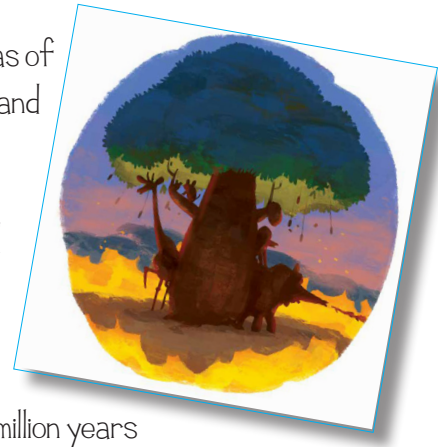
The baobab tree has a pre-historic background. Its species dates back to over 200 million years ago. This fascinating tree can live for up to 5,000 years.

The baobab tree absorbs and stores water in its trunk during the rainy season. One single tree can hold up to 1,189 gallons of water. This allows for the baobab tree to produce nutritious, rich fruit and to provide water for humans and animals in the dry season.

Its bark is useful in many ways. Humans use it to make rope and clothing. In the dry season, elephants and other animals chew on it in efforts to absorb its moisture.

Some folks call the Baobab Tree and its fruit the next “superfood” because of its rich nutrients, vitamin C, potassium, and iron. Its medicinal properties are also fantastic, from insect repellent, skin conditioner, anti-inflammatory, antiviral, antioxidant properties, and more.

Many animals seek nourishment and shelter in the baobab tree. Small finch-like birds known as “weavers” construct elaborate nests in its massive branches. Ground hornbills, mottled spinetails, and barn owls, and even Bush Babies roost in the upper portion of the tree. Bats, insects, and reptiles – too many to be counted – find homes in its inner hollows and its trunk's wrinkled ribbing.



It is said that, if a young boy is washed in water that has been used to soak baobab bark, that he will grow to become tall and strong.

In Sunland, Africa, a carbon-dated 6000-year-old Baobab Tree with a naturally hollowed out trunk was turned into a pub in 1933. The bar had 13-foot high ceilings and has fit 60 people inside. On April 13, 2017, the tree came crashing down, completing the circle of life.

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