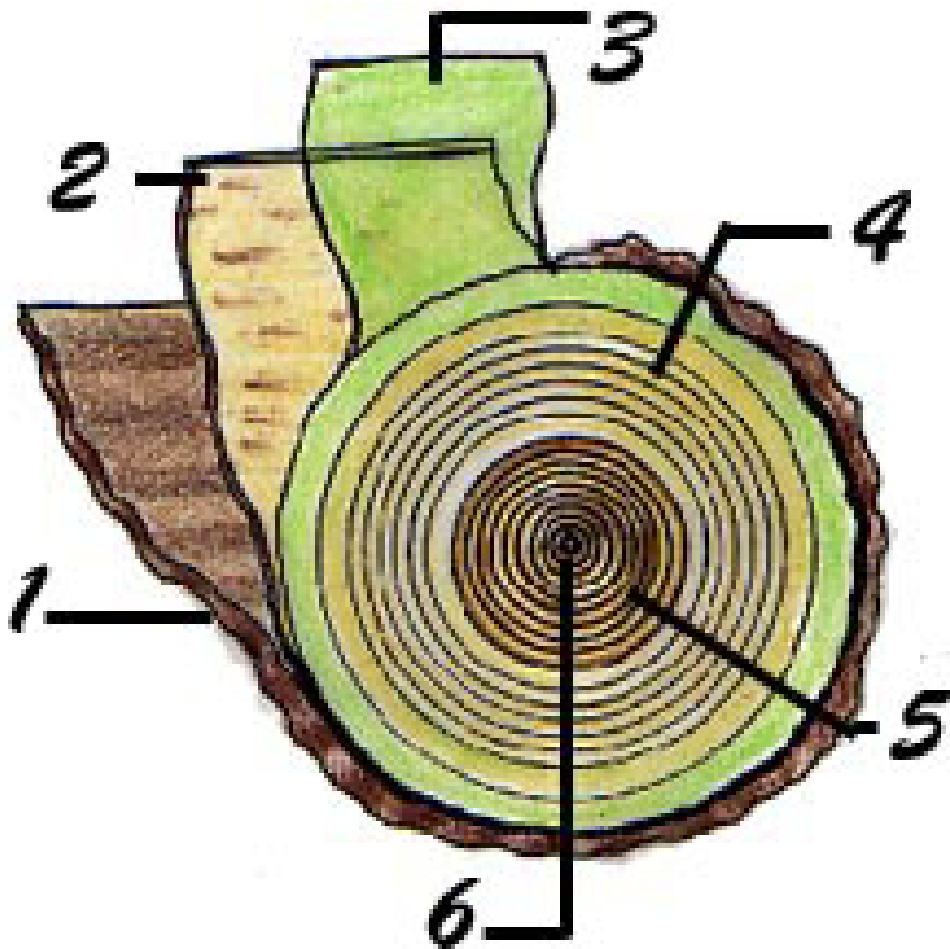


Heart of the tree!



1. The **outer bark** protects the tree from extreme temperatures, bad weather, insects and fungi. Very thin in birch trees, the outer bark may be one foot thick in the Douglas fir.
2. The **phloem** is also called the inner bark. It conveys the food-bearing sap developed in the leaves down to the various parts of the tree.
3. The **cambium** is a thin layer of cells which produce phloem on one side and sapwood on the other.
4. **Sapwood** is the living wood in the tree through which the raw sap rises from the roots to the leaves.
5. The **heartwood** consists of old cells. This is the dead part of the tree that nevertheless provides structural strength. If air could reach these cells, the heartwood would rot quickly.
6. The **pith** is the central core of the tree.