

*Read.*



Lesson 61

*start*



*Read this silently and then out loud.*

## THE PROUD LEAVES

A big tree grew in a meadow.  
Green leaves grew on the tree.  
One day they said to the sun,  
"How beautiful we are!  
We make the tree beautiful.  
What would the tree be if it had no leaves!  
We make a cool shade, too.  
Boys and girls play in our shade.  
They swing and laugh and sing.  
All the birds fly into the tree.  
They sing to us,  
'Tweet-tweet, tweet-tweet.'  
See their little nests all around us!  
The wind sings through us.  
It says, 'Oo-oo-oo! Oo-oo-oo! Oo-oo-oo!'"  
So the leaves felt very proud.

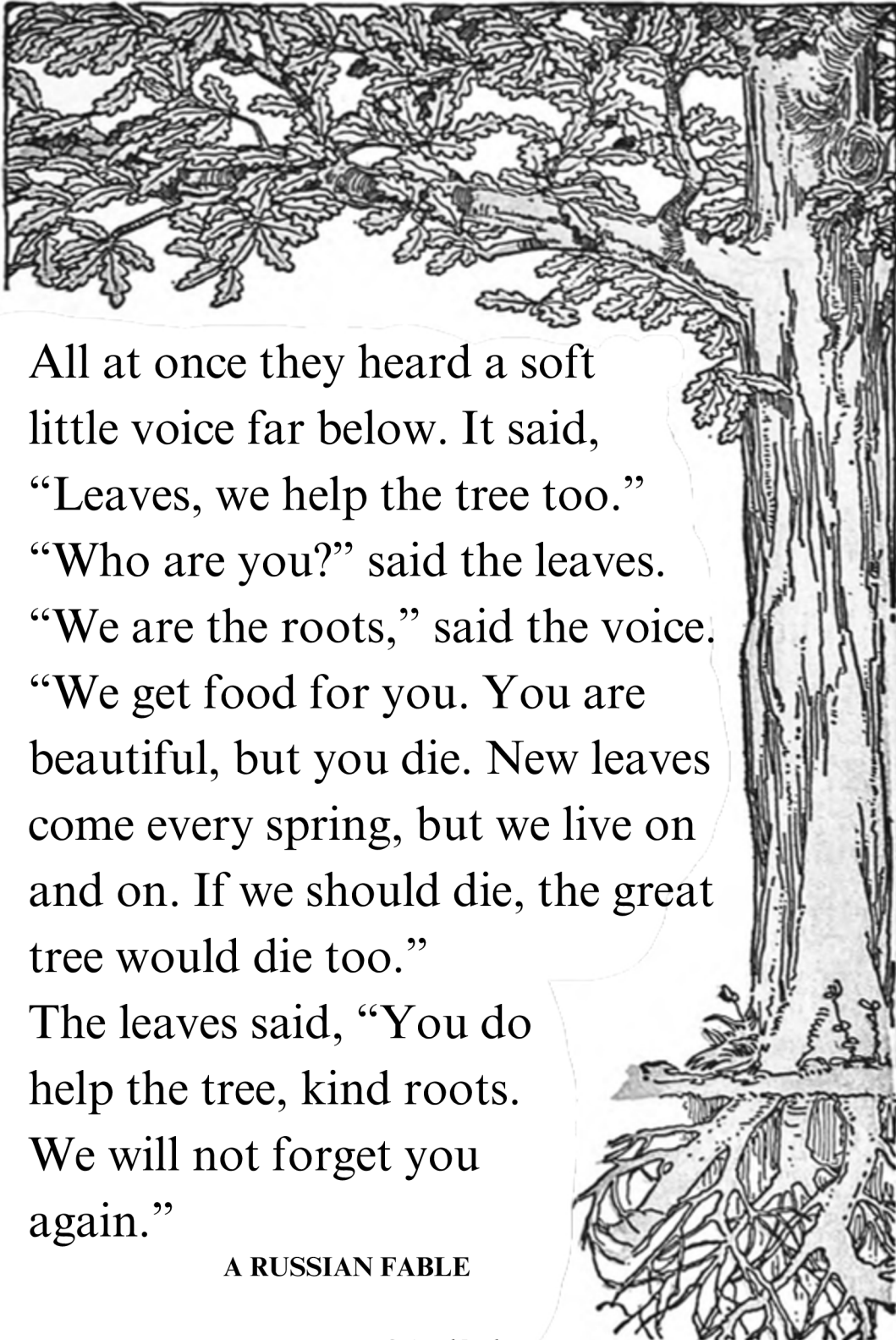
*Read.*



**Lesson 61**



*Read this silently and then out loud.*



All at once they heard a soft little voice far below. It said, “Leaves, we help the tree too.” “Who are you?” said the leaves. “We are the roots,” said the voice. “We get food for you. You are beautiful, but you die. New leaves come every spring, but we live on and on. If we should die, the great tree would die too.”

The leaves said, “You do help the tree, kind roots. We will not forget you again.”

**A RUSSIAN FABLE**

## *Discuss.*



## Lesson 61



*Teacher instructions: Discuss the illustration and the passage with your learner.*



*What do you see in the illustration?*

*What did the leaves do?*

*What did the leaves think about themselves?*

*What did the roots do?*

*What did the leaves say to the roots?*

*Write.*



Lesson 61



*Copy the passage.*

The leaves said, "You do  
help the tree, kind roots.  
We will not forget you again."

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline.

