



Tree cones hold the seeds that grow new trees. Each tree has its own cone. A Fir tree has a Fir cone, a Pine tree has a Pine cone, a Cedar tree has a Cedar cone and a Spruce tree has a Spruce cone.

The Legend of the Douglas-Fir Cone

A West Coast legend tells of a time long ago when the Great Spirit was resting against a very large Douglas-fir tree. Many little mice began bothering him. They ran all over his body and through his hair. The Great Spirit asked the mice to go away and leave him alone but they kept climbing all over him. The Great Spirit became angry and gave the mice one last chance to go away or else! The mice were very frightened and scurried away. The Great Spirit looked around to see where they had gone. He looked up into the Douglas-fir tree and there they were, hiding in the cones. To this day you can still see the two hind feet and tail of the mice sticking out of the Douglas-fir cones.

Douglas-fir cones have three pronged scales called bracts that stick out of the cones.

