



#53 Naming



Two evergreens had grown together for as long as their stories remembered. Through every kind of weather they had stood by each other. One day, as they observed two humans walking by, the one evergreen remarked to the other, “I just heard the humans name each other ‘friend’. Would you consider that we are friends?” “Oh, I don’t know,” replied the second evergreen, “humans have a lot of names that I do not understand, like ‘love’ and ‘success’. I know that I am standing by you after all these years. I suppose that might be friendship.” Suddenly the first evergreen had the urge to drop a pine cone. It fell right next to the humans with some force. The first human jumped and laughed at almost being struck. “That is what I would call ‘gravity’!” exclaimed the second human. As the humans left, the first evergreen observed, “I see what you mean. They can name things instead of seeing them, knowing them, or appreciating their beauty. They just named gravity - and I am quite sure they hardly know what gravity is. Perhaps names sometimes label that which is NOT understood.”

NAMING CAN SUBSTITUTE FOR KNOWING