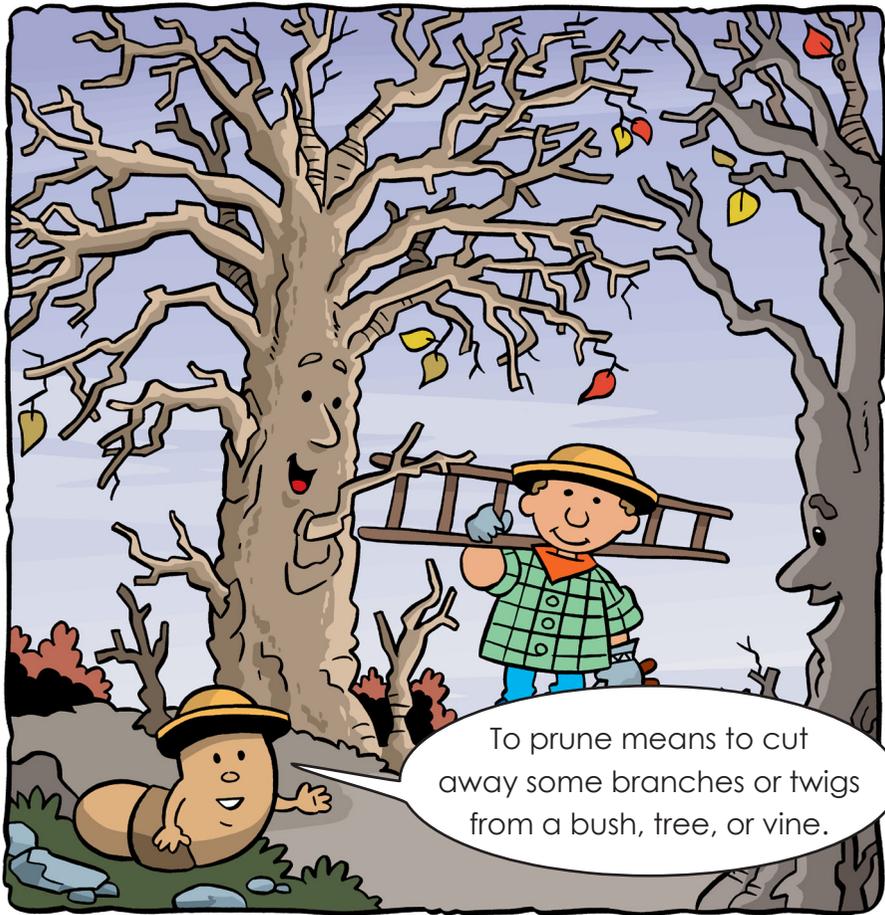


A gardener will prune a plant to help it grow better.

Pruning is done to get rid of dead or weaker branches. It's also necessary to cut away excess branches, making way for the sun to shine on the rest of the tree. Pruning a plant doesn't mean that something is wrong with the plant, rather it is a way to help the plant.



A gardener will prune his trees in the fall and winter so that when spring comes they can grow stronger and bear more fruit.





It is also done to train the tree to grow in the right shape to make it easy to pick the fruit.

Thank you, Mr. Apple Tree, for your yummy apples!

You're welcome! Mr. Gardener has cared for me well.

You can think of God as your loving gardener, and you are His little plants. He takes good care of you.



He waters you with His love, He shines His grace on you, and His Words help you to grow in faith.

The Bible says that sometimes "he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more."² This pruning often comes in the form of discipline.

This "pruning," or training and discipline, even though it's difficult at times, helps you to grow into a caring, happy, and generous person.

