Tier 1: tree
This tree has pointy leaves.
Commonly used in social language, usually concrete, & no continuous direct instruction needed.

Tier 2: vary
Trees vary in shape, size, & color.
High-utility words used across multiple disciplines, usually abstract, & continuous direction instruction needed.

Tier 3: photosynthesis
Content-specific words, usually abstract, & continuous direct instruction using examples from the discipline is required.
Trees make fuel through a process called photosynthesis.