# **Tree Data Structure**

### Introduction

Tree is a non-linear data structure which organizes data in a hierarchical structure.

A tree is a finite nonempty set of elements or nodes. Nodes are connected by edges. Each node contains a value or data, and it may or may not have a child node. consists of nodes with a parent-child relation.

## **Applications:**

- 1. Organization charts
- 2. File systems



#### **Binary Tree**

Binary Tree is a special data structure used for data storage purposes. A binary tree has a special condition that each node can have two children at maximum.

"In computer science, a binary tree is a tree data structure in which each node has at the most two children, which are referred to as the left child and the right child."



## **Trees Terminology**

The important terms related to tree data structure are:

- 1. **Root:** The first node from where the tree originates is called as a root node. In any tree, there must be only one root node.
- 2. **Edge:** The connecting link between any two nodes is called as an edge. In a tree with n number of nodes, there are exactly (n-1) number of edges.
- **3. Parent:** The node which has a branch from it to any other node is called as a parent node. In other words, the node which has one or more children is

called as a parent node. In a binary tree, a parent node can have only at maximum two child nodes.

- 4. **Child:** The node which is a descendant of some node is called as a child node. All the nodes except root node are child nodes.
- 5. **Sibling:** Nodes which belong to the same parent are called as siblings. In other words, nodes with the same parent are sibling nodes.
- 6. **Degree:** Degree of a node is the total number of children of that node. Degree of a tree is the highest degree of a node among all the nodes in the tree.



- 7. Leaf node: The node which does not have any child is called as a leaf node.
- 8. Level : In a tree, each step from top to bottom is called as level of a tree. The level count starts with 0 and increments by 1 at each level or step.



9. **Sub tree:** In a tree, each child from a node forms a subtree recursively. Every child node forms a subtree on its parent node.



# **Applications:**

- 1. arithmetic expressions.
- 2. decision processes.