

Seasonal Supplemental Activities – Autumn

- *These activities are optional supplements focused on the noticeable seasonal changes in NY & PA; these activities are not recommended for FL sites as they are not “real” (observable) changes for children.*
- *The exception to this would be if children have lived or visited elsewhere and have actually seen/can reflect on seeing changing leaves, leaves falling, squirrels gathering nuts, etc. and show an interest in exploring this topic.*

<p>Recommended Reading</p> <p><u>Fall Leaves Fall!</u> by Zoe Hall <u>Fall (Four Seasons Series)</u> by Nuria Roca <u>Autumn Leaves</u> by Ken Robbins <u>The Fall of Freddie the Leaf: A Story of Life for All Ages</u> by Leo F. Buscaglia</p>	<p>Songs & Poems</p> <p><u>Leaves Are Falling From the Trees</u> Guess what’s falling from the trees? Slowly, slowly come the leaves! Red and orange and green and brown, Twirling, swirling to the ground! Guess what’s falling from the trees? Slowly, slowly come the leaves!</p>
<p>Big Body Play</p> <p>Pretend to be squirrels gathering acorns. Scatter your “acorns” around the room (bean bags, or you can make some from construction paper). When you say GO, two children will gather all of the acorns while the rest of the team cheers them on.</p>	<p>Technology (ages 3+ only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select the Colors of Fall puzzle from the 'World Around Us' tab in ABCmouse. • Enjoy the Four Seasons song in the 'World Around Us' tab in ABCmouse. • Explore the Four Seasons book in the 'World Around Us' tab in ABCmouse.
<p>Leafy Experiments (Science)</p> <p>Experimenting with leaves is a fun age-appropriate way to introduce little ones to the scientific method. See how long leaves can float in a container of water, how long a leaf can stay in the air when it is tossed up, measure leaves using various units of measurement, and/or roll different color leaves to see which one breaks first. You can extend this experience by encouraging children to make predictions, to document observations, and to graph results.</p>	<p>Music & Movement</p> <p>Recreate the falling of a leaf with the play scarf and have the children copy you. Sing the song “The leaves are falling down” (to the tune of the farmer in the dell)</p> <p>The leaves are falling down The leaves are falling down Red and yellow green and brown The leaves are falling down.</p> <p>To add excitement on the last line, toss the play scarf up in the air and watch it drift to the ground.</p>

Additional ways to use leaves you’ve gathered with children:

Confetti - Dry, crunchy leaves are best for this. Have children crush up the leaves with you. This is a great opportunity to talk about how the leaves feel, how they smell, what they sound like while you are crushing them up. Invite children cover a paper leaf shape in glue and then sprinkle the crushed leaves over the paper.

Salt Dough Leaf Print - Leaves that are not yet dry will work best for this activity. Look for leaves with raised “veins” as they will make the best imprint. Create a batch of salt dough using your favorite recipe. Help little ones press the leaf into the salt dough carefully. After baking the imprints or allowing them to air dry, provide the children with some crayons or paint to decorate and color their leaves

Leaf Rubbings - Roll masking tape so that it is sticky side out, then press onto the leaf and press the leaf onto the table. Place a piece of white paper over the top of the leaves and rub over them with the sides of an unwrapped crayon.

