



Autumn Takeout Storytime



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Greetings, Caregivers!

You are your child's first teacher. Help your little one get ready to learn how to read by talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing together. Have fun!

Talk

Take an autumn walk and talk about what you encounter. Collect leaves, pinecones, and other natural treasures to add to a play sensory tub at home. Compare your collected leaves to a tree identification book or website, figuring out the trees' names together. Is your leaf shaped like a hand or an arrow? Identifying the names of objects when observing the world around you builds vocabulary and helps kids build observational skills.

Sing

As you walk in the leaves or rake them up, listen closely to sounds around you. Make up a song using descriptive words like crunch, swish, crinkle, swoosh. "Little leaves are falling down, swooshing, swishing all around!" Onomatopoeia - words that suggest the sound that they describe - help kids master letter sounds and understand that language is representative.

Read

Read a book together and then retell the story using puppets, small toys, or homemade felt pieces. Visual cues help kids recall the story's events and place them in order. Rereading your child's favorite story supports their sense of mastery and confidence as they predict what happens next, making them feel like they are telling the story themselves.

Write

Gather fresh leaves and make leaf rubbings. Place a leaf under a sheet of paper and show your child how to hold a large crayon flat against the paper using their index finger and thumb. Lightly color with the broad side of the crayon and marvel as a leaf appears. Holding a crayon this way requires precise use of finger muscles, the same fine motor skills necessary for writing.

Play

Join your child while they play with toys. Create characters with voices and personalities alongside your child, making imaginative stories together. Dialog within dramatic play is how kids rehearse real-life language and emotions within the safety of a game.



Books

Available to read on Hoopla!

Kitten's Autumn
by Eugenie Fernandes
hoopladigital.com/title/11425955t

Summer Green to Autumn Gold
by Mia Posada
hoopladigital.com/title/12416692

Those Darn Squirrels!
by Adam Rubin
hoopladigital.com/title/11066247

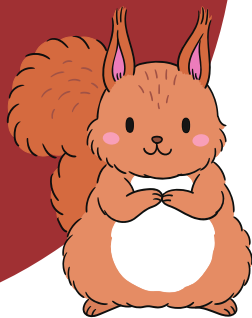
Why Do Leaves Fall From Trees?
By Ruth Owen
hoopladigital.com/title/12878056

Animals in the Fall
by Martha E. H. Rustad
hoopladigital.com/title/11772904

Need more fabulous books?
imagineiflibraries.org/shopper

Songs

Make up your own verses with your child!



Pumpkin, Pumpkin

Learn the American Sign Language version with JBrary: tinyurl.com/JBraryPumpkin

Tune: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
Pumpkin, pumpkin on the ground
How'd you get so big and round?
Once you were a seed so small,
Now you are a great big ball.
Pumpkin, pumpkin on the ground
How'd you get so big and round?

Autumn Leaves

Tune: London Bridge
Autumn leaves are falling down,
Falling down, falling down
Autumn leaves are falling down
All through the town.

additional verses:

The wind will blow them round and round...
They're drifting gently to the ground...
Take a rake and rake them up...

Playtime

Bring the beautiful autumn season inside for sensational hands-on play, art and science!



Virtual Early Literacy Class

Join Imagine!F's Becca for an autumn-themed early literacy class on YouTube: tinyurl.com/AutumnStorytime

Marbled Leaf Painting

Squirt shaving cream onto a plate and drip several drops of tempera paint or food coloring on top. Swirl and mix the paint with a paintbrush or craft stick. Press your paper leaf down into the paint. Lift the paper and scrape off the excess shaving cream with a wide craft stick. Repeat the process as much as you like!

Leaves on the Trees

Tune: Wheels on the Bus

The leaves on the trees turn orange and red,
orange and red, orange and red
The leaves on the trees turn orange and red,
all around the town.
The leaves on the trees come twirling down,
twirling down, twirling down
The leaves on trees come twirling down,
all around the town
The leaves on the ground go swish-swish-swish,
swish-swish-swish, swish-swish-swish
The leaves on the ground go swish-swish-swish,
all around the town.

Way Up High

Way up high in the apple tree
(Stretch arms above your head, hands open)
Two little apples smiled at me
(Close hands into fists)
I shook that tree as hard as I could
(Shake the tree)
Down came the apples
(Bring fists down)
Mmmm, they were good!
(Rub stomach)



Pumpkin Playdough

Combine two cups of water, pumpkin spice seasoning, and food coloring in a sauce pan. Add two cups of flour, 1 cup of salt, 2 Tbs oil and 1 Tbs cream of tartar. Mix thoroughly with a wooden spoon on medium heat. When the dough forms together into a ball, turn it out onto a clean surface and let rest. When cool enough to touch, knead for several minutes until your dough is consistently smooth throughout. (tinyurl.com/Imagine!Fplaydough)

Small Autumnal World

Fill a shallow box or roasting pan with your favorite sensory material like feed corn, black sunflower seeds, rice, beans, or oats. Add small toys, silk leaves, and natural materials like sticks, pinecones, stones, and buckeyes that you've gathered on walks. Add a tool or two like a spoon, tweezers, funnel, or sieve. Invite your child to play to their heart's content!

Make a Puppet

Use a brown paper bag to create a puppet. Will your puppet have a fluffy tail? Protective spines? Sharp teeth? Silent wings? Tell stories with your puppet.



Jim West Puppets