

# Opening the Gift

## Fall For All

November 2017



*Hocus Pocus, It's Fall!* by Anne Sibley O'Brien  
*Under My Hood I Have a Hat* by Karla Kuskin  
*The Busy Little Squirrel* by Nancy Tafuri  
*Growing Vegetable Soup* by Lois Ehlert  
*Baa Baa Black Sheep* by Jane Cabrera  
*Full of Fall* by April Pulley Sayre  
*Leaf Jumpers* by Carole Gerber  
*I'm a Turkey!* by Jim Arnosky  
*Fall Leaves Fall* by Zoe Hall



## Nursery Rhyme: Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush

### Songs & Fingerplays to Share



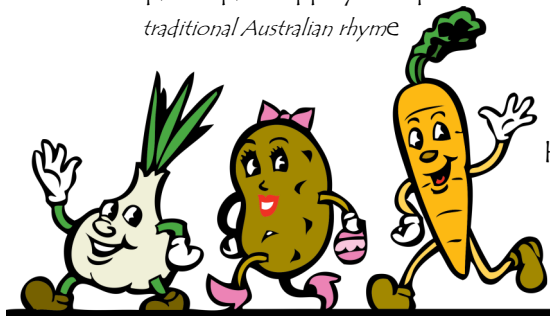
CD: "I Feel Crazy So I Jump in the Soup" from *Victor Vito* by Laurie Berkner



#### Chop Chop

Chop, chop, choppity-chop!  
 Chop off the bottom and chop off the top.  
 What we have left goes into the pot.  
 Chop, chop, choppity-chop!

*traditional Australian rhyme*



#### I Wish I Were A Leaf

I wish I were a leaf, a leaf, a leaf.  
 If I were a leaf,  
 I'd float in the wind like this.  
 I wish I were a leaf, a leaf, a leaf.  
 If I were a leaf,  
 I'd twirl in the wind like this.  
 I wish I were a leaf, a leaf, a leaf.  
 If I were a leaf,  
 I'd float down to the ground like this.

#### Frisky Squirrel (tune: *The Grand Old Duke of York*)

Oh, the frisky little squirrel  
 He gathers nuts and seeds.  
 He hides them for the winter months  
 So he'll have all he needs.

#### Refrain:

Oh, up-up-up he goes  
 And down-down-down he comes.  
 He runs around - goes up and down.  
 His work is never done.

#### Put On Your Socks

(tune: *Hickory Dickory Dock*)

Hickory dickory dock  
 Let's put on our socks  
 We walk around,  
 without a sound  
 When we put on our socks!  
 (repeat with march, hop, tip-toe, run, etc.)  
*preschoolexpress.com*



#### It's Getting Cooler!

Cooler weather  
 (hug self & shiver)  
 Wear a sweater.  
 (run hands down arms)  
 Leaves turn red and brown.  
 (hold arms overhead)  
 Windy breeze  
 (sweep arms back and forth)  
 In the trees.

(continue sweeping motion)  
 Leaves fall to the ground!  
 (flutter fingers down to floor)  
*Mailbox Preschool Yearbook 2015-16*

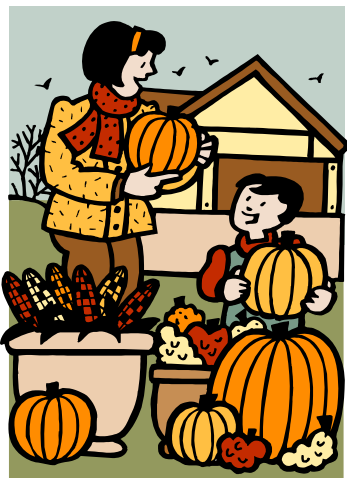


#### Pumpkin Countdown

Five orange pumpkins sitting on the ground.  
 One rolled over and tumbled all around.  
 He opened his eyes.  
 What a big surprise!  
 My, oh, my! He was in a pumpkin pie!  
 Repeat, counting down to zero.



**Your next visit will be: December \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Next month's theme will be: "Bells Are Ringing"**



## More Books to Share:

*Wonderfall* by Michael Hall

*Yellow Time* by Lauren Stringer

*A is for Autumn* by Robert Maas

*My Leaf Book* by Monica Wellington

*Kitten's Autumn* by Eugenie Fernandes

*The Leaves Fall All Around* by Steve Mack

*Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn* by Kenard Pak

*Fall Leaves: Colorful and Crunchy* by Martha A. Rustad

## Activity Ideas:

**Seed of the Day:** Taking any food allergies into consideration, plan a "seed of the day" snack, serving a different type of seed each day (such as sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, peanuts, popcorn, pomegranate, etc). Expand the options with items that contain seeds such as sesame bagels, poppy seed muffins, or flax seeds chips.

adapted from *My Big World of Wonder* by Sherri Griffin PTC 372.35 G

**Acorn Squeeze:** Remind little ones to calm down and think before they act with an acorn-themed sensory area. Gather brown pom-poms (acorns) and place them in a small tub. When a child needs to calm down and think, encourage her to visit the area and squeeze and squish the acorns. If desired, place a muffin tin in the area as well and the child can count the acorns as she places them in the tin. Remind her to breathe deeply and slowly as she works, When she is feeling more calm, she can rejoin her classmates.



*Mailbox Preschool Yearbook 2015-16*

**Cornmeal Play Dough:** If you wish, have the children help you make this no-cook play dough! Place in a mixing bowl 2 1/2 cups of flour, 1 cup of cornmeal, one tablespoon of oil, one cup of water, and a few drops of yellow food coloring. Stir the mixture until combined and then knead the dough thoroughly, adding oil as needed to reach the desired consistency. Place the dough in a center for youngsters to explore.

*Mailbox Magazine Preschool Edition Oct/Nov '08*

## Book of the Month:



*Practical Solutions to Practically Every Problem: The Survival Guide for Early Childhood Professionals* by Steffen Saifer PTC 372.21 S

"An encyclopedic how-to guide for the universal early childhood program problems, providing solutions to every possible problem faced by early childhood teachers before teachers encounter them. This classic esource has been updated to focus on current issues faced by educators, including teaching twenty-first century life skills, technology, and cultural responsiveness. This easy-to-use guide gives you quick practical help, now!

Educators will save time and energy with over eight hundred solutions to two hundred problems, including: Daily dilemmas and classroom issues—Partnering with families to raise happy children—Dealing with problem-atic behaviors from co-workers—Learning to take care of yourself to prevent burn-out." (*Amazon.com*)



## Road to Reading Tip:

Research Says: "Be particularly vigilant for symptoms of ear infections in your young child, since even very subtle changes in his early auditory experience can affect language development."

*Brilliant Brain Games for Kids to Enjoy* PTC 649.5 B



**Harford County  
Public Library**

**Questions or Suggestions?** Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, 410-638-3151, ext. 6351  
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator, 410-638-4800 (starting at 8am)  
or call the Opening the Gift cell phone, 443-608-9881  
email: chase@hcplonline.org

"like" Opening the Gift on facebook!

