

Opening the Gift

Autumn Colors

Fall Leaves by Loretta Holland
Pumpkin Cat by Anne Mortimer
Leaf Jumpers by Carole Gerber
Ten Red Apples by Virginia Miller
Who Loves the Fall? by Bob Raczka
Kitten's Autumn by Eugenie Fernandes
My Autumn Book by Wong Herbert Yee
Tap the Magic Tree by Christie Matheson
Black Crow, Black Crow by Ginger Foglesong Guy

Nursery Rhyme: Two Little Blackbirds

Songs & Fingerplays to Share

CD: "Fly Away Crow" from *The Best 101 Children's Songs*

Five Stuffed Scarecrows

Five stuffed scarecrows in the corn rows,
(stand straight and tall)

The first one said, "Go away crows!"
(make waving motions)

The second one said, "I am very small."
(crouch down low)

The third one said, "I am standing tall."
(stand on tiptoe.)

The fourth one said, "On my head I wear a hat."
(put pretend hat on head.)

The fifth one said, "By my feet runs a cat."
(run in place)

Five stuffed scarecrows in the corn rows,
(stand straight and tall)

Moving left and right as the autumn wind blows.
(sway & move arms left and right)



Two Red Apples

Way up high, in a tree,
(raise arms up)

Two red apples smiled at me.
(smile)

So I shook that tree as hard as I could,
(pretend to shake tree)

Down came the apples,
Mmmm, they were good!
(rub stomach)

Autumn Time

The trees are gently dropping,
leaves onto the ground.
(flutter fingers down)

The flowers all are nodding,
down and all around.
(turn around slowly)

The wind is blowing,
a chilly breeze.
(sway back and forth)

The birds are flying,
into the trees.
(flap arms like wings)

Toddle on Over PTC J 027.625 D

Orange Pumpkin

(tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star)

Pumpkin, pumpkin orange and round,
(stretch arms out and form a circle)

Sitting in the pumpkin patch on the ground.
(crouch down)

Once you were a seed so small,
(pretend to hold a seed)

Now you are a great orange ball!
(make huge circle with hands)

Pumpkin, pumpkin orange and round,
(stretch arms out and form a circle)

Rolling, rolling on the ground.
(make rolling motion with arms)

Falling Leaves

Little leaves fall softly down,
Red and yellow, orange and brown.
Whirling, twirling round and round,
Falling softly to the ground.

Little leaves fall softly down,
To make a carpet on the ground.
Then, swish, the wind comes whistling by,
And sends them dancing to the sky.



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Your next visit will be: November

Next month's theme will be: "Sock Hop"



More Books to Share:

Fall Mixed Up by Bob Raczka

Leaf Trouble by Jonathan Emmett

As the Crow Flies by Cheila Keenan

Sneeze, Big Bear, Sneeze! by Maureen Wright

Word Bird's Fall Words by Jane Belk Moncure

Oh My, Pumpkin Pie by Charles Chigna

My Leaf Book by Monica Wellington

Ready For Pumpkins by Kate Duke

Activity Ideas:

Leafy Color Match: Give each child a leaf cutout in a fall-related color. Then have youngsters with red leaves stand and join you as you lead them in singing the song shown, prompting them to find a red item in the room when indicated. After the song, have each child name the item she found. Then repeat the song with each remaining leaf color. *Mailbox Magazine, Preschool Edition Oct/Nov 2008*

(tune: Hokey Pokey)

You hold your red leaf up,
You hold your red leaf down,
You hold your red leaf up,
And you wave it all around.
You take it for a walk and look for
Red things all around.
Then tell me what you've found!



Seasonal Sink and Float: Gather a selection of fall objects such as pinecones, acorns, cornucobs, leaves, rocks, and small pumpkins. Gather the children at the water table (or use a deep clear plastic tub filled with water). Present the objects to the children and invite a discussion of each one. Choose one item and have each child briefly hold it. Have a child place the object gently in the water; ask the children to describe their observations using the terms *sink* and *float*. Repeat with the remaining objects, giving each child a chance to place one in the water. *Mailbox Magazine, Preschool Edition Oct/Nov 2003*

Book of the Month:

Early Childhood Activities for a Greener Earth by Patty Born Selly PTC 372.357 S

Educate young children about the environment through experience and play. These activities encourage children to develop a sense of wonder, curiosity and joy for nature. Each chapter focuses on common and important environmental topics—including waste reduction, recycling, air quality, weather, climate change and energy reduction—and provides information to help you present these topics to children in developmentally appropriate ways. *Early Childhood Activities for a Greener Earth* will help you excite children, engage families, and encourage your community to be

Love your environment



...be proud of it.

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Road to Reading Tip:

Toddlers love to practice new skills and knowledge. Although adults may tire of the same book, young children need to hear the same story many times to fully understand the chain of events. Hearing a story over and over helps a toddler learn about word sounds, meaning, rhythm, and intonation, in addition to developing an understanding of connected events. At this age, practice play (doing things over and over) also helps toddlers learn. They enjoy practicing the reading of a familiar story. You may even see a toddler read a story to a favorite stuffed animal or doll. zerotothree.org/brainwonders/EarlyLiteracy.html

Questions or Suggestions? Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, 410-638-3151, ext. 2279

If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator, 410-638-4800 (starting at 8 am)

email: chase@hcplonline.org

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