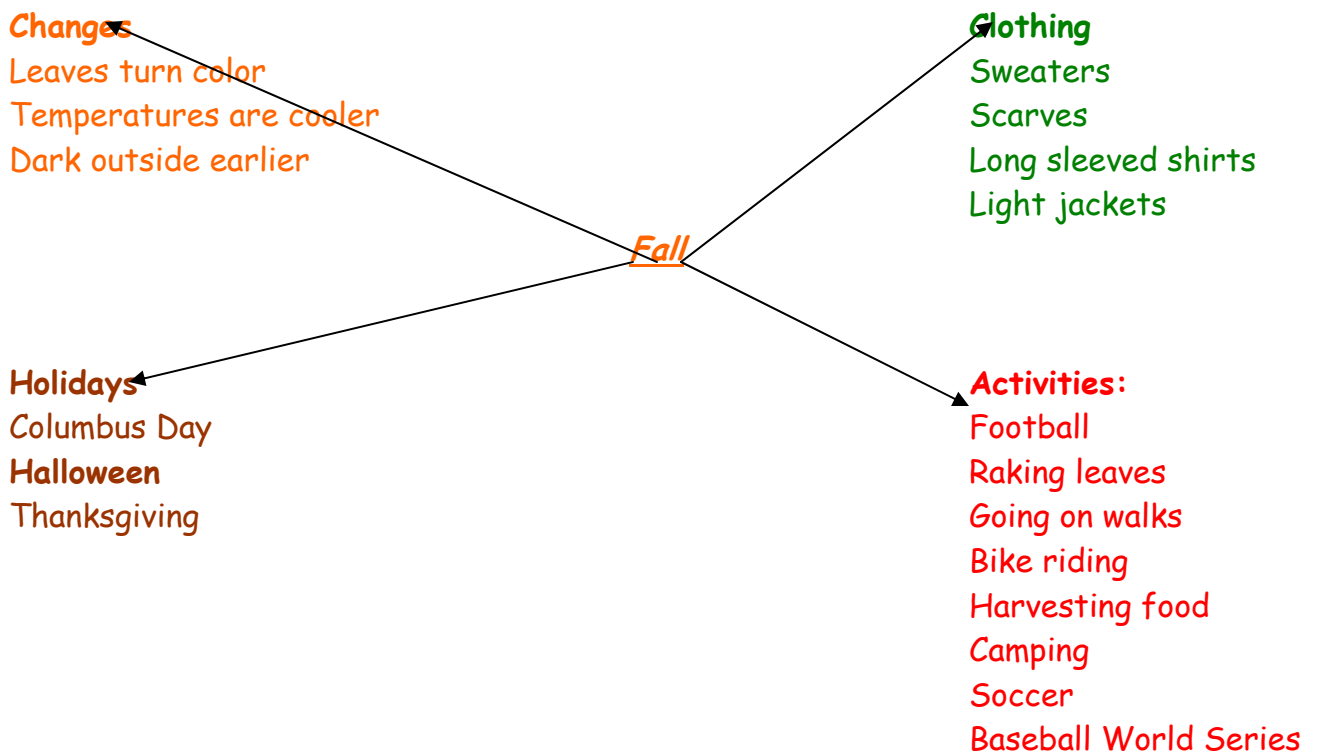


Fall: Leaves Theme

I. Concepts about fall and Leaves

- Fall is a season that comes after summer and before winter
- Autumn is another name for fall
- Fall is harvest time: Many foods that are being grown are ready to eat (ripened) and are picked (harvested) in the fall. Some of these foods are: apples, pumpkins, nuts, corn and potatoes.
- The weather becomes cooler in the fall; people begin to wear sweaters and jackets to stay warm.
- Days become shorter and nights become longer.
- Leaves on most of the trees change color and later die. Many leaves fall off the trees to the ground.

Mind Map (can be pictorial on a poster)



II. Stories to Read:

- * *Leaves in the fall* by Teresa Williams
- * *5 Little Leaves Counting Interactive Book* by Teresa Williams
- 1. *Pooh's Leaf Pile* by Isabell Gaines
- 2. *Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf* by Lois Ehlert
- 3. *Fall Leaves Fall* by Zoe Hall

Fall: Leaves Theme

III. Poems: Found in Preschool Mailbox, Oct/Nov 2006

This poem I made into an interactive counting book

(Five) little leaves hanging on a tree.

Along came a breeze and blew one free.

The little leaf fell with out a sound.

There are (four) on the tree and (one) on the ground.

Continue until there are zero on the tree and five on the ground.

IV. Activities:

1. **Go on a Fall Walk:** Point out changes like leaves changing colors, that is now colder outside, you may see squirrels gathering food, etc.
3. **Go on a Leaf Hunt:** Pick up different colored leaves that have fallen to the ground.
4. **Leaf Sort Graph:** Make a graph of leaves according to color, shape and size
5. **Leaf Sort:** Sort leaves in piles before graphing
6. **Leaf Rubbings:** Use lightweight paper over leaves and make a crayon rubbing
This can also be substituted with puffy glue on paper leaf outlines. This is easier for children that have difficulty with fine motor. Also, you can melt Fall color crayons in muffin tins to make a larger multicolor crayon for small fingers to grasp.
7. **Leaf Prints:** Use a paint brush to paint the back of a leaf using bright fall colors.
The child presses the leaf onto construction paper
8. **Leaf People:** Glue the leaf (without the stem) onto construction paper, add a face, stick arms and legs. Label the leaf person. You can make a leaf family.
9. **Evergreen Needle Painting:** Dip a small branch of pine needles in paint and use it
Like a paint brush.
10. **Crumpled Paper Leaves:** Cut out leaf shapes from paper bags, paint with a paint brush using fall colors, wet slightly, crumpled up with hands and let dry. The leaves dry very realistic looking
11. **Coffee Filter Leaves:** Dip the coffee filters in water that has food color added.
Let dry, then cut out in leaf shapes. Or you can cut out the leaf shapes first
12. **Leaf Book:** Glue found leaves in a construction paper bound book. Label the pages
13. **Pressed Leaves:** Press leaves under heavy books until dry. Display .
14. **Fall Collage:** Using the items one finds on a "fall walk" make a collage to display
(nuts, pinecones, leaves, etc.)
15. **Ironed Leaves:** Place leaves between 2 sheets of waxed paper and iron, trim with a construction paper boarder and display

Fall: Leaves Theme

IV. Activities Continued:

16. Books about fall and Leaves

A) **Leaves:** Mailbox Preschool Oct/Nov 1990

Cover Page: Draw and color leaves around the title. Or glue small foam leaves or leaf stickers to the cover.

pg 1: Glue dark green construction paper bits or tissue paper on tree tree branches

pg 2: Glue red, orange and yellow paper bits to the tree branches

pg 3: Glue a few red, orange, and brown paper bits to the branches and more on the ground

pg 4. Glue red, orange, and brown bits of paper on the ground around the tree trunk

pg 5. Glue light green construction paper bits on the tree branches

B). **Fall Brings:** Mailbox Preschool. Oct/Nov 2006

Cover: add child's name: print out with fall computer or construction paper

pg 1: Tape pieces of curling ribbon on the pumpkin picture. color the pumpkin

pg 2: Color the picture; spread glue over grass, and sprinkle with clear or silver glitter to resemble frost

pg 3: Press your finger in a red ink pad or red finger paint then make prints on the page for fall foliage . Use different colors

pg 4. Use a crayon to trace the child's long sleeve shirt . Draw hair on child to resemble the child's hair, color the page as desired. I have also used digital camera to take pictures and insert the child's on the face.

D). **Leaf Countdown:**

Add sticker or construction paper leaves to the branches according to the number on the tree trunk. Counting down from 5 to 0.

17. **Rake Leaves:** Rake leaves, listen to the crunching sound leaves make when stepped on. Rake and bag leaves. Rake leaves into a pile and jump in leaves.

18, **Math:**

a) Size: Which is the biggest or smallest leaf?

b) Counting: Count the leaves

c) Sort: Sort by shape