Autumn Leaves

An early learning unit designed for preschool learners
## Autumn Leaves

### Language & Listening
- ABC’s – story telling
- books – letters
- flashcards – order
- compare/contrast
- videos – reading – writing

| Leaf ABC Sticker Match Up –
| *Print outs of leaves
| *3/4” circle stickers
| *Markers |

| Leaf Name Spelling –
| *Print out of tree and leaves
| *Scissors
| *Markers
| *Glue |

| Fall ABC Bingo –
| *Bingo Card Printable
| *Cheerios or beads
| *Letter Flashcards |

| Read Picture Books about FALL! –
| *Read any and all books you can find about fall – fiction and non-fiction! |

### Beginning Reading
- early readers – syllables
- books – sight words
- phonemic awareness
- phonics
- silly songs

| 5 Little Leaves Poem –
| *Poem printable
| *Highlighter or markers |

| The Colors of Fall Reader –
| *Print out of book
| *Scissors
| *Stapler
| *Markers |

| Leaves on ME! Open-ended Writing –
| *Printable template
| *Markers |

| I Can Count Fall Leaves Reader –
| *Print out of book
| *Scissors
| *Stapler
| *Markers |

### Paint, Paste, Create
- crafts – pictures
- cutting – glue – gifted
- art – crayons
- do-a-dot – markers
- projects – writing

| Leaf People –
| *Leaves
| *White Paper
| *Glue Bottle
| *Wiggly eyes
| *Permanent Marker |

| Coffee Filter Leaves –
| *Coffee Filters
| *Markers
| *Spray Bottle
| *Scissors |

| Foil Painted Fall Tree –
| *White thick paper
| *Aluminum Foil
| *Fall colored paint
| *Paint brush
| *Paper plate |

| Painting with Leaves –
| *Thick paper
| *Fall colored paint
| *Leaves
| *Paper plate
| *Clothes pins |

### Music & Movement
- silly songs – rhymes
- actions – dancing
- Bible songs
- holiday songs
- exercise

| Fall Song –
| *Copy of song page |

| The Leaves of the Tree Song –
| *Copy of song page |

| Little Mouse Stuck –
| *Printable mouse and leaves, cut out
| *Story Starter |

| Scarecrow Song –
| *Tablet or computer
| *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEvOIBQnBE |

### S.T.E.M. Skills
- hands on
- building – creating
- science
- math – technology
- STEM activities

| Parts of a Leaf Diagram –
| *Printable diagram
| *Real leaf for comparison |

| Leaf Rubbing –
| *Paper
| *Real leaves
| *Crayon with no paper wrapper |

| Why Leaves Change Colors Video –
| *Tablet or computer
| *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk4-6I8I5Q |

| Leaf Experiment –
| *Leaves – green
| *Spoon
| *Coffee Filter
| *Rubbing alcohol
| *Containers |

### Math Activity Pages
- 123’s – shapes – colors
- puzzles – order
- grouping – adding
- counting games
- sizes – puzzles

| Color the Leaves –
| *Printable leaf color page
| *Markers or Crayons |

| Leaf Fingerprint Counting –
| *Printable page
| *Fall colored paint
| *Paper plate |

| Fall Leaf Number Hunt –
| *Fall color paper or printable leaves
| *Markers |

| Graphing Leaf Colors –
| *Print out of graph
| *Leaves
| *Markers or crayons |

### Hands On Learning
- play dough
- five senses
- sensory bin
- cooking
- experiments

| Fall Time Nature Walk and Leaf Investigation –
| *Sense of adventure and looking eyes 😊 |

| Play Dough Fall Tree –
| *Play dough |

| Pipe Cleaner Trees and Leaves –
| *Brown pipe cleaners
| *Buttons or beads
| *Play dough |

| Fall Tree Snack –
| *Pretzel Sticks
| *Apple Jacks
| *Paper plate |
**Leaf ABC Sticker Match Up –**
Print out the leaf outline of your preference (either ABC’s in order or random). Write each letter of the alphabet on a circle sticker. You can either do upper or lower case, depending on how you want your child to match up and practice their letters. Have your child then match up the sticker with the correct letter on the leaf and stick it on.

**Leaf Name Spelling –**
Print out or draw a bare tree. Print out or draw leaves enough for the number of letters in each child’s name. Write each letter on a leaf, then give them to your child. Have the child glue them onto the tree in the correct order.

**Fall ABC Bingo –**
Print out the Bingo Card that matches your child’s level. One card is ABC’s in order, the other one is ABC’s mixed up. Gather some kind of marker ... Cheerios, ripped pieces of paper, pom-poms, beads, etc. Use a set of ABC flashcards to pick the letter to cover. You play to win by covering a row up and down or across, or play back out and cover all the spaces.

**Read Picture Books about FALL! –**
Read any and all books you can find about fall – fiction and non-fiction! Look through your book collection at home, go to the library, or ask friends or family to borrow books! Just read BOOKS! 😊
Autumn Leaves

Beginning Reading Activities Information:

**5 Little Leaves Poem –**
Print the poem. Read the poem to your child. Then have your child pick out familiar sight words. Have them underline or highlight words they know, double letter words, rhyming words, number words, etc.

**The Colors of Fall Reader –**
Print, cut and staple the reader book together. Read through the book with your child, or have them read on their own, depending on their reading level. Have your child trace the color words and then color the fall picture the correct colors.

**Leaves on ME! Open-ended Writing –**
Print out the writing template. Have your child think of something leaves fall on (car, sidewalk, path, deck, grass) or something silly for leaves to fall on. Help them write the word on the line. Then have them draw a picture of their chosen item and have them decorate their person to look like them. Then have your child draw or glue leaves all over the paper.

**I Can Count Fall Leaves Reader –**
Print, cut and staple the reader book together. Read through the book with your child, or have them read on their own, depending on their reading level. Have your child count the leaves and underline the number word on each page. Have them color the leaves.
Autumn Leaves

Paint, Paste, and Create Activities Information:

**Leaf People –**
Collect leaves from outside with your child. Try to find all shapes and sizes, and try to find some pairs of leaves that look similar (for arms and legs, etc.). It would be helpful if the leaves are not too crunchy because they may fall apart while you use them to create a person. Have your child lay out the leaves in a variety of ways to form a person, and let them pick which way they like best. Once they have decided, glue the leaves onto a piece of paper. Add wiggly eyes and a mouth.

**Coffee Filter Leaves –**
Lay coffee filters out flat and allow your child to color as much as they can with fall colors. Place the colored coffee filters on old rags or newspapers. Spray them with water and watch the colors bleed together. When they have dried, cut out leaf shapes. You could tape them on a string and make fall garland, or tape them on a window for fall decoration.

**Foil Painted Fall Tree –**
Make an outline of a bare tree on a piece of thick white paper. Have your child paint the trunk and branches brown. Once the brown paint has dried, put orange, yellow, and red paint on three separate plates. Wad up a piece of aluminum foil loosely. Dip a side of the wad in the paint and dab it over the top of the tree to look like autumn leaves. Repeat with each color.

**Painting with Leaves –**
Go on a leaf hunt and find a few sturdy, un-crunchy leaves. Fill a few paper plates with different fall colors of paint. If the leaves are not super strong, clip a clothes pin to the stem end for holding on to. Dip a leaf in a color of paint and swirl it around a light colored piece of paper.
Autumn Leaves

Music – n – Movement Activities Information:

**Fall Song –**
Print the song page out, or read it off a device. Sing the song with your child a few times on a few different days to help them remember it.

**The Leaves of the Tree Song –**
Print the song page out, or read it off a device. Sing the song with your child a few times on a few different days to help them remember it.

**Little Mouse Stuck –**
Print out the pieces needed to play this little story game. Play as many times as your child’s interest holds.

**Scarecrow Song –**
Play this song and let your child dance like a scarecrow. This song will help your child move and learn how to move slow and fast!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=geFvOfBQNbE
Autumn Leaves

S.T.E.M Skills Activities Information:

**Parts of a Leaf Diagram –**
Grab a leaf from nature and look at the parts of a leaf on the diagram and the real leaf. You could also label the parts of a leaf onto a real leaf with a Sharpie marker.

**Leaf Rubbing –**
Gather a few leaves from outside. Place them under a paper. Rub the side of a crayon over the paper on top of the leaf. Try this process with a few different types of leaves if possible, and look for similarities and differences between them.

**Why Leaves Change Colors Video –**
Watch this video about why leaves change colors on a computer or other device. After watching be sure to try out the experiment in the next activity! [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk4-6I8l5Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk4-6I8l5Q)

**Leaf Experiment –**
Print out the experiment instruction page. All the instructions are listed and explained on the page. If this method of seeing the colors of leaves does not give you positive results, there are many other ways to complete this experiment on Pinterest. I think it just depends on what stage your leaves are in and what results you achieve.
**Color the Leaves –**
This activity is all about learning how to follow directions and differentiating colors and size. Read one direction at a time and have the child follow the direction. Work on listening skills by only saying each direction one time.

**Leaf Fingerprint Counting –**
Print the activity pages. Fill a paper plate with one or more fall colors of paint. Have the child dip one finger tip into the paint. Make as many finger print “leaves” as indicated on each tree.

**Fall Leaf Number Hunt –**
Make your own leaves, or print out the leaves included in this packet. Place numbers on them. You could count by ones, twos, fives, tens, number 11-20, etc. Hide the leaves around your space. Have your child find them and bring them back to the table. Once all have been found and collected, have your child put them in the correct number order.

**Graphing Leaf Colors –**
Print out the graph. Go on a nature walk with your child and collect leaves. After the walk, separate the leaves into color piles. Then count each color pile and fill in the leaf graph accordingly. If the weather cooperates, this whole activity could be done outside by bringing crayons and the printable on a clipboard or thick book to color on.
**Autumn Leaves**

*Hands On Learning Activities Information:*

**Fall Time Nature Walk and Leaf Investigation –**
For this activity, simply spend some time outside enjoying the autumn season. You could go to a walking trail in your community, a park, the country, or simply your back yard. See how many things are changing... leaves, plants drying out to drop their seeds, grass dying, pine trees staying green, etc. Have some fun and spend some time outdoors!

**Play Dough Fall Tree –**
Have some fun with play dough! Make fall trees, fall animals like squirrels or deer, apples, pinecones, acorns, whatever suits your fancy! 😊

**Pipe Cleaner Trees and Leaves –**
Make some fall trees out of pipe cleaners. Stick the pipe cleaner tree in a chunk of play dough to keep it up right. Hang buttons, beads, Cheerios, Apple Jacks, pieces of pipe cleaner, whatever you can think of onto the branches. Make your own fall forest!

**Fall Tree Snack –**
Using pretzels and Apple Jacks cereal, make a tree to eat! Let your kids use their imagination and create their very own, one of a kind fall tree!
Autumn Leaf Sticker Match

Write alphabet letters on ¾" circle stickers. Have the learner practice matching upper case to upper case letters, or upper case to lower case letters. Write the type of letter you want to practice on the stickers.
Autumn Leaf Sticker Match

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Leaf Name Spelling
Leaf Name Spelling
Alphabet Bingo

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G H I J K L
M N O P Q R
S T U V W X
Y Z
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Five Little Leaves

Five little leaves on the tree next door,
One fell off and then there were four.

Four little leaves all over the tree,
A bird pulled off one and then there were three.

Three little leaves where the wind blew,
One fell off and then there were two.

Two little leaves sitting in the sun,
A bug ate a leaf and now there is one.

One little leaf in the tree all alone,
The wind blew and blew and now there are none.
the colors of FALL

I see an orange pumpkin.
Look at the red leaves.

I see a yellow sunflower.
I see a green apple.

Look at the brown acorn.
Leaves on the ________
and leaves on me!
I Can Count Fall Leaves!

I see one leaf.
Look! Two leaves.

Here are three leaves.
I have four leaves.

I have five fall leaves.
Fall
(sung to the tune of Are You Sleeping?)

Leaves are falling
Leaves are falling
To the ground
Without a sound

Days are getting shorter
Nights are getting longer
Fall is here
Fall is here
The Leaves of the Trees
(sung to the tune of The Wheels on the Bus)

The leaves of the trees turn orange and red,
orange and red, orange and red.
The leaves of the trees turn orange and red
All through the town.

The leaves of the trees go swish, swish, swish,
swish, swish, swish, swish, swish,
swish, swish, swish, swish, swish.
The leaves of the trees go swish, swish, swish
All through the town.

The leaves of the trees come tumbling down,
tumbling down, tumbling down.
The leaves of the trees come tumbling down
All through the town.
Little Mouse Stuck
Tell a little story: Little Mouse loves fall! When all the leaves fall from the trees, he likes to jump into leaf piles. He’s so small, that sometimes he gets stuck behind a big, heavy leaf. Can we help him get out?
Then ask: Little Mouse, Little Mouse, are you stuck behind the (color) leaf?
Little Mouse Stuck
Parts of a Leaf

Vein – brings food and nutrients the leaf makes to the tree

Blade – all of the soft, colored part of the leaf

Stem – part of the leaf that attaches to the branch

Leaf Rubbing
WHY DO LEAVES CHANGE COLORS?

Supplies Needed:
* white coffee filter
* green leaves
* containers – jars or test tubes
* rubbing alcohol
* spoon
* tablet to watch video clip

Experiment Goal:
The goal of this experiment is to find the color that the leaf is going to change into when fall time comes. You will want to choose green leaves that are still attached to a tree. If possible, pick leaves from separate trees that are going to turn different colors.

Experiment Instructions:
1. Watch the video “Why Do Leaves Change Colors?” by SciShow Kids https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk4-6lI8l5Q

2. Go outside and pick some leaves. You want green leaves, preferably from two different trees that will change different colors.

3. Bring them inside and rip them into small pieces. Place the pieces in a small container or jar.

4. Cover them just barely with rubbing alcohol. Crush and mix up the alcohol and leaves as much as you can.
Why do leaves change colors?

Experiment Instructions:
5. Take a cut strip of a coffee filter and place it in the container so it just touches the alcohol solution. Bend or tape it over the edge of the container.

6. Depending on how much your leaves were crushed, you should start seeing results in about 15 – 60 minutes. You are looking for a line of color other than green on the coffee filter paper. That line will indicate what color the leaf is going to change into during autumn time.

Our leaves will turn yellow in the autumn.
Listening to Directions – Leaf Colors

Color the biggest leaves red.
Color the medium leaves orange.
Color the smallest leaves yellow.
Falling Leaves Fingerprint Counting

Dip your finger into a fall color of paint. Make the correct number of prints on each tree to make leaves. Some leaves could be falling to the ground or on the ground.
Cut leaves apart and write a number on the front of the leaf. You could count by ones, twos, fives, etc. Hide the leaves around the room. After finding, have the child put them in the correct number order.
Leaf Graph

Name _________________________

RED  ORANGE  GREEN  YELLOW  BROWN