

YMCA CCRR

SEASONAL RESOURCE SHEET

FALL 2021

Hello there, fall! After the particularly warm summer we just had, we missed you. Warm blankets, crunchy leaves, crisp mornings, chilly nights, and cozy sweaters are but some of the many things to look forward to in the months ahead.

The annual transition of seasons is a visually ripe time to explore with children, for all around we are surrounded by hints of change. With fall comes wetter weather, shorter and darker days, leaves fading to colours of warmth, and animals scurrying in preparation for the colder months that lay ahead. Children, curious and eager, are remarkable in their efforts to bring our attention to the brilliance and beauty of these changes.

As you think ahead to your program planning and provocation inspirations in the months ahead, look to the children in your classroom. How might you honour their “lived experience” of fall? Can you use materials to explore their understandings and theory making about such changes they are experiencing in their worlds? Are there ways to extend their curiosity about this time of year and bridge it to art, fine motor, gross motor, and outdoor explorations? Yes, and yes. Keep reading!

LOOSE PARTS & SMALL WORLD PLAY

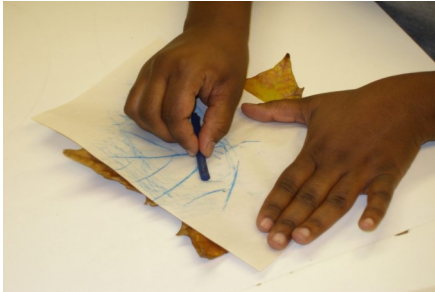


Collect together toys, props, and loose (fall-themed) materials in your centres. It'll bring the outdoors *in* and offer children the opportunity to make meaning around the vibrant matter of their environments. Need help? We have an ever growing selection of such resources available to borrow in our Early Learning Resource Library!



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FALL ACTIVITY INSPIRATION



Fall is bountiful and is easily able to be harnessed in your program planning. Combine its natural elements with the materials in your classroom to create:

- Painted leaf prints
- Leaf rubbings
- Fall collages

Fall inspired fine motor activities are endless, including:

- Leaf cutting
- Fall playdough exploration trays
- "Hammering" pumpkins

EARLY LEARNING RESOURCE LIBRARY

We have lots of fall, harvest and Halloween themed resources for you to borrow. Below are just a few of the many that are available. Are you interested in seeing more of the items we have to borrow to help supplement your curricula in the fall season ahead? Scan the QR code to the right with your phone's camera to view our catalogue!



00981 - Fall Pack #2



22852 - An Apple Tree in Four Seasons



05097 - Fall Exploration



22878 - Brown Owl, Brown Owl, What Do You See?

FALL & THE OUTDOORS



Rain or not, keep going outside! It may be colder, but the fall season offers countless opportunities for rich moments of learning.

Here are some ideas for inspiration:

- Play in the leaves
- Collect and sort leaves by colour
- Use leaves for shape, number and letter making
- Use water and soap to wash pumpkins
- Make a mud soup or pie
- Splash in the puddles

Bundle up and have fun!



CONNECTING TO THE EARLY LEARNING FRAMEWORK



Seasonal changes bring our attention back to nature and the land. With it comes the opportunity for meaning-making in adults and children alike. As you are out in the elements with the children in your care this fall, find moments to watch and listen for new understandings. What knowledge are the children in your care constructing as they engage with the changing materials of their environments? In that knowledge, are there opportunities for you to help them to reflect, investigate, and find understanding? Hold on to those thoughts, and look to the Early Learning Framework for further questions to think upon:

- How might I contribute to children's connection with our autumnal land?
- What does it mean to be in a relationship with the land?
- What are the children's stories of the land and fall?