Fall Activity Guide

The leaves are falling, the air is crisp, and the days are getting shorter. That’s right—it’s FALL! Discover some fun and simple activities to help the children in your life explore outdoors and or bring nature inside on rainy days during this wonderful time of year.

1. **Make Leaf Prints**
   Embark on a leafy adventure! Collect leaves of various shapes, sizes, and colors on your next walk or hike. Arrange them out on a piece of paper and then cover them with another sheet. Unwrap a crayon, use its side, and gently rub over the top sheet. Watch your leaf print emerge! Get creative, rearrange the leaves for playful patterns, and experiment with a burst of colors!

   **Turn your leaf prints into notecards, placemats or giftwrap!**

2. **Plan a Cozy Storytime**
   Check out books like ‘The Lorax’ by Dr. Seuss, ‘The Curious Garden’ by Peter Brown, or ‘A Tree Is Nice’ by Janice May Udry. Find a cozy spot outdoors or by a window, and let the tales come alive with your voice!

   What’s the special message about our bond with nature that your chosen book tells?

   **Re-tell the story to someone else or write a poem or story of your own that expresses the theme of the book.**

3. **Take a Sunset Sensory Walk**
   Put on a jacket and see your neighborhood or community in a whole new way—on a sunset walk!

   Find the sun in the sky and walk toward it. What do you observe as time passes? What changes do you hear, feel, or smell? Talk about the colors you see—and how they change as you walk. Where else do you see those colors in nature?

   **When you head back indoors, use crayons, colored pencils or watercolor paints on paper to capture the colors you observed, or describe your sensory walk to someone else.**

4. **Go for the Glow**
   Outdoor fun can happen safely in the dark! Head to your backyard or a familiar outdoor space for some glow-y fun!

   - Bring a ball or Frisbee that glows in the dark and play catch!
   - Hide a glow-in-the-dark toy in a not-too-hard spot! – and see if your partner can find it!
   - Grab some flashlights—and play tag! Try to escape each other, but if the light shines on you, you’re out!

5. **Find Who Says Who-Who!**
   Do you know what species of owls might live near you? Look up photos of owls on the internet or find a book about owls in the library. Which ones would you love to spy outside?

   What do owls sound like? A shriek, a trill, a who-who-who! Take an evening walk—and listen! If you hear a call that might be an owl, can you use your ears and identify where the call is coming from—overhead in a tree? Down the street?

   **Many people think the call of a barred owl sounds like “who cooks for YOU?” What words do you think an owl—or any bird you hear—might be saying when they call out?**

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