

Autumn Leaf Party!
“Third Thursday”
Evening Family Story Time
September 20, 2007
Geri Ceci Cupery, E.D. Locke Memorial Library, McFarland

Books:

Fall Leaf Project, by Margaret McNamara
Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf, by Lois Ehlert
Leaf Man, by Lois Ehlert
The Leaf Men, by William Joyce
What Happens in the Autumn, by Suzanne Venino
How Do You Know It's Fall? By Allan Fowler

Song / Flannel Activities:

“The Prettiest Leaf” *based on the traditional folk song “The Green Grass Grew All Around”*
(a call-and-response song, with flannel board pieces)

“Autumn Leaves Are Falling Down” *sung to “London Bridge”*
(hand out felt leaf shapes, put them on your head, then shake your head to make them fall as you sing verse 2 – it’s short but sweet!)

Games:

Pin the Leaves on the Tree

(cut out large tree from brown butcher paper, or several grocery bags taped together + Ellison die leaf cut-outs + blue removable masking tape loops + bandanas)

– OR –

Autumn Leaf Bingo

Use tiny leaf die-cuts as the bingo pieces, and make your own Bingo cards from the internet. Here are two sites, using the search phrase “free bingo cards” in Google:

<http://print-bingo.com/g.php?gp> (20 unique cards for free – for more, there is a charge)

<http://www.dltk-cards.com/bingo/> (This site allows you to choose themed picture bingo or traditional number bingo, in black & white or color – but be patient, sometimes the download seems to take awhile!)

Crafts:

Leaf rubbings

Collect a variety of leaves, and show them to the children; identify some varieties if you can. Then demonstrate how to lay a sheet of white or light colored paper over a flat leaf and rub a crayon over it to get a leaf rubbing. Hint: the veins may show up better if you lay the leaf under the paper with its underside *up* – sometimes the ridges are more pronounced that way.

Make a book!

My Fall Leaves Number Book (Bry-Back Manor, 1998)

You will need:

- Template from <http://www.bry-backmanor.org/actpag106.html>
- Construction or craft paper in a variety of colors, especially orange, brown, yellow, red
- Yarn or string
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Glue sticks

Instructions:

1. color the letters of the cover page and the end page
(or all the pages, if you are so inclined – and have the time!)
2. trace numbers on each page, 1-10
3. color the leaves on the pages OR wait to hunt for real leaves that match the pictures
4. cut out the pages
5. fold cover in half
6. trim the book's cover to be about an inch bigger on each side than the pages
7. decorate cover with your name and/or leaf cut-outs
8. use paper punch to punch holes on the left sides of the pages and the folded cover
9. use yarn or string to bind the cover and pages together