

FALLING LEAVES

SPEECH AND COGNITION ACTIVITY

MATERIALS

- Leaves (different colors, shapes, sizes)
- Basket

AREA OF DEVELOPMENT

- Cognition
- Speech and Language Skills

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go outside and gather leaves with your child. You can collect fallen leaves or pick them off of a tree.
 - a. Alternative: Use fake leaves from the store or make leaves out of construction paper.
2. Provide opportunities for your child to put the leaves inside the basket.
3. Put a hand full of leaves in your hands and your child's hands.
4. Throw the leaves in the air **on the count of 3** or using **"Ready... Set... Go!"**
5. Repeat and encourage your child to request for "more".

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Identifying colors (e.g., "What *color* is this leaf?", "The leaf is *yellow*.", "Which leaf is *green* - this one or that one?")
- Practice counting the leaves
- Explore the different sizes (e.g., *small* leaf vs. *big* leaf)
- Practice directional concepts (e.g., "put the leaves *inside* the basket", "lets throw the leaves *up*", "leaves are falling *down, down, down*")
- Encourage your child to request for more by signing or saying "*I want*" or "*more*"