

Parent Activity	Theme: Fall	Age: Older Toddler
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Title	Description and Objective	Key Learning Area/ PA Early Learning Standard	Developmental Domain	Evidence of Learning and Assessment	Materials, Equipment
Leaf Hunt Gathering and Sorting Activity	You and your child will have the opportunity to find green, yellow, orange, and red leaves. You will sort them into bags with colored leaf pictures. Together we count the amount in each bag. As we count, your child will add a square of the appropriate color to our graph.	Mathematical Thinking and Expression, Exploring, Processing, and Problem-Solving	Cognitive Development	Your child will observe and collect leaves in assorted colors and place them in the appropriate bag. Together we count each of the four colors and place squares to record results.	Assorted leaves, paper bags, laminated color cards, clothespins, flip chart pad, magic marker, and color graph squares
	The goal is to sort leaves by colors, counting and graphing the results.	Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category, graph results. (p 51)		A successful child understands the concept of color and sorts leaves in appropriate bags. Together we will count the amount of each color.	

Note to Parents: We bring all necessary materials to our home activity. Your family prepares to have fun together!

Leaf Hunt Gathering and Sorting Activity

PARENT NEWSLETTER

NOV 2024



Why use this activity?

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

During our Leaf Hunt, we will gather leaves of different colors. We will sort the leaves by color, count them, and create a colorful graph. This activity is designed for your child to develop skills in mathematical thinking, sorting, counting, and color recognition.

MATHEMATICAL THINKING

Counting, sorting, and graphing are foundational math skills. Sorting the leaves by color encourages categorization, a key step in early math learning, while counting and graphing help children see quantities visually and understand amounts.

FINE & GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

Gathering leaves helps your child practice fine and gross motor skills. Holding bags, bending to pick up leaves, and sorting all help build hand strength and coordination.

LANGUAGE & SOCIAL SKILLS

As we go on our leaf hunt and work together to sort and count, your child will have opportunities to express themselves, ask questions, and learn new words related to nature, colors, and counting.



Community Resources

HONESDALE LIBRARY

Thursdays 4:30 to 5:30 the library has storytime sessions. Check out books about nature, leaves, colors, or counting to reinforce what we are learning.

CENTRAL PARK & MORE

Visit Central Park or Apple Grove Park for another leaf hunt! Look for more natural items like acorns, pinecones, or rocks to expand sorting and categorization skills.



FARMER'S MARKET

Visit the farmers' market to see how colors and sorting relate to foods, flowers, and other natural items. This can help build connections between colors, counting, and everyday items.



At-Home Activities Ideas

- Create a Nature Journal: Collect leaves of different shapes and colors, and glue them into a notebook to make a "nature book" with your child. Practice naming colors and counting the leaves on each page.
- Play Color and Counting Games: Use colored paper squares (similar to our graphing squares) to play sorting games at home. Try counting different colors of toys or items in the house.



Objectives:

- To support your child's development in mathematical thinking and expression
- To encourage exploration, processing, and problem-solving
- To strengthen fine and gross motor skills
- To develop language and social skills through guided play

Materials Needed:

- Small bags with colored pictures of leaves (green, yellow, orange, red) for sorting
- Color squares for graphing
- Large poster board for creating the group graph

Visit Schedule:

- **Introduction (5 minutes):** We talk about how sorting and counting the leaves helps us learn about math and colors.
- **Leaf Hunt (10-15 minutes):** We take a short walk to gather leaves of various colors.
- **Sorting Activity (5-10 minutes):** We sort the collected leaves into the appropriate bags with your child. We reinforce color recognition and encourage your child to match each leaf to the corresponding bag.
- **Counting and Graphing (5-10 minutes):** We count the leaves in each bag together, and then place a square of the matching color on the graph for each leaf. Your child is practicing fine motor skills when they place each square.
- **Reflection and Discussion (5 minutes):** We talk about the colors and quantities we found. We encourage your child to observe and discuss the graph results such as which color had the most leaves?