Observing With All Our Senses

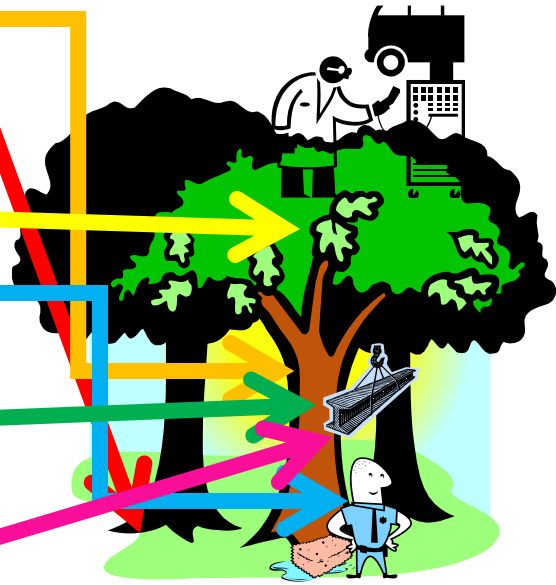
We Love Leaves!

- Leaves have two important functions for trees: they make the food and energy, and with leaf pull, they distribute the food and energy throughout the tree.
- Leaves give us shade to keep us cool.
- We eat leaf foods!
- Leaves come in many shapes, sizes, colors and textures; you can smell and taste some leaves and use all 5 senses for leaf learning!
- Leaves can have veins and teeth. Can you find your teeth? Can you find your veins?
- Sometimes we can see bumps on leaves—these may be galls—a way the tree protects itself when an insect lays an egg on the leaf.
- Sometimes we see trails on a leaf—something may be eating the leaf.

Leaves change color when days get shorter and cooler.

- Chlorophyll=green=long warm days making energy
- **Carotenoids =yellow, orange=energy production ending**
- **Tannins = brown=waste products**
- **Anthocyanins=pink, purple=sugars**

- **Roots slurp up water and *nutrients*/food—slurp—hands low and squeeze like a sponge**
- **Food and water whoosh up the trunk—whoosh—hands from floor up**
- **Leaves are the engine making energy—chug chug with arms working like pistons**
- **Energy whooshes down the trunk—whoosh—hands from high to floor**
- **The heartwood lets the tree stand strong—tap chest—lubdub**
- **The bark protects the tree like clothing—give a hug around the middle**



Did you know the leaves pull water and nutrients up to the top of the tree? Did you know the roots push the water and nutrients up the tree?

You can do fingerplays!

- The leaves are here, the leaves are there, the leaves, the leaves are everywhere. (hands left then right then all around)
- The leaves are up, the leaves are down, the leaves, the leaves are all around. (hands up then down then all around)
- The leaves are in, the leaves are out, the leaves, the leaves are all about. (hands close then far then all around)
- The leaves are high, the leaves are low, the leaves, the leaves can blow, blow, blow. (hands up then down, then all around)

- *The leaves are blowing (blow) all around (hands go around)*

- *They go up in the air (reach high) and down to the ground (bend over and touch the ground)!*

Sing to *Jingle Bells*

Leaves are falling, leaves are falling, one fell on my nose.

Leaves are falling, leaves are falling, one fell on my toes.

Leaves are falling, leaves are falling, one fell on my head.

Leaves are falling, leaves are falling, yellow, orange, red.

http://singanewsongmusic.blogspot.com/2010/09/leaves-in-fall.html

Sing to *London Bridge*

- Autumn leaves are falling down, falling down, falling down.
- Autumn leaves are falling down—now it's Autumn.
- Rake the leaves and sweep them up, sweep them up, sweep them up.
- Rake the leaves and sweep them up—now it's Autumn.
- Jumping in and having fun, having fun, having fun
- Jumping in and having fun—now it's Autumn.

Leaves can do so many things!

Lively Leaves

What are all the things a leaf can do?

Takes the water and pulls it through,

With sun and air make energy,

To feed and grow a great big tree!

How many ways can you play with leaves?

- Raking leaves and
- Sweeping leaves
- Gathering leaves
- Making a leaf fort
- Hiding in leaves
- Tossing leaves
- Jumping in leaves
- Crumpling leaves

You can make leaf wraps….

- First, get a leaf of lettuce, or cabbage or kale.

- Then choose your filling—cheese sticks or cubes, veggies, luncheon meat, chicken nugget, hot dog.

- Now choose your topping—salad dressing, hummus, avocado.

- Place your filling on the leaf and add your topping. Then wrap it up to make a healthy leaf wrap!

Leaf wraps

Lettuce, tomato and mustard, and cabbage, cheese and salsa!

….or a pretzel tree!

- You can use thick pretzels for the trunk and thin pretzels for the branches.

- What can you use for leaves? Cranberries, golden raisins, raisins, almonds, pistachios, grapes, what else can you use for leaves?

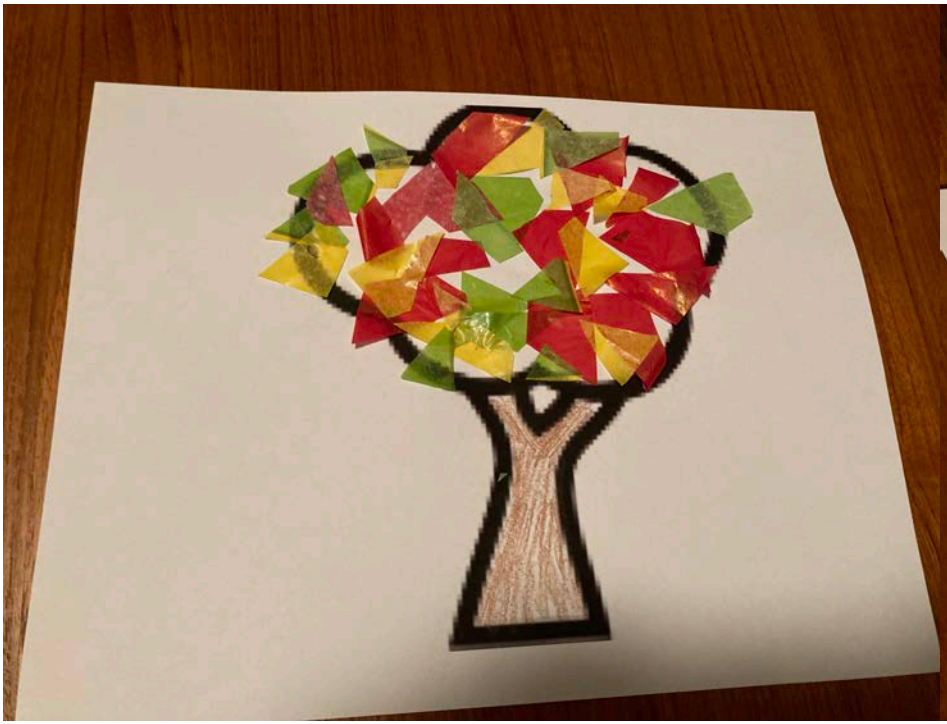
Pretzel, raisin, cranberries and almond tree, and collard tree, celery forest and scallion and celery leaf tree!

How many ways can you do leaf art?

- Paint with leaves.
- Glue leaves to a plate or paper to make a leaf wreath/collage.
- Tape real leaves on a tree outline.
- Make leaf wands to blow in the breeze.

You can be a leaf artist!

Tissue paper

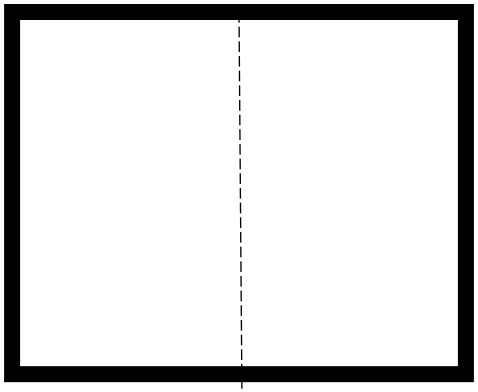
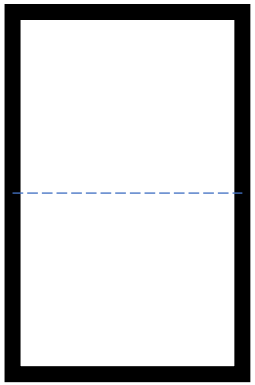


Leaves

Be a leaf designer and make this leaf into a creature or car or whatever you want!

You can be an engineer and design a leaf creature!

You can create a leaf creature!

You can make a mini-book!

- Fold the paper in half
- Then in half again.