

Everyday and Everyway Talking about... September



Fall is a great time to spend outdoors. The weather is still warm enough to enjoy being outside. Walking to the park or playing in the yard is a great chance to learn. Include your child in activities you do in the yard during the fall. Talk about what you do and why you do it. Play together and have fun.

Try these activities, songs, books, and crafts to help your child learn. Speak, sing, and talk about books with your child in your own language.



Activities

Collecting leaves

- Talk about the leaves.
 - *What colour are they?*
 - *What sound do they make when you step on them?*
 - *Do the leaves feel dry or wet?*
- Collect your favourite leaves.
- Glue the leaves on paper to make a picture.

Raking leaves

Let your child help you rake leaves – even toddlers can help with a toy rake.

- Make a big pile of leaves to run and jump into.
- Let your child bury you with leaves.
- Talk about where all the leaves have stuck to you. *Are they on your hair, shoe, sock, or pants?*
- Hide outdoor toys in the leaves and search for them.
- Let your child help put the leaves in the bag.

Yard clean up

Your child can have fun in the garden.

- She can pull up the dead plants.
- She can dig in the dirt with her toy shovel.
- She can learn new words like, *dig, dirty, clump, worm, root, and rock.*

Back to school

Do you have an older child who goes to school?

- Talk about how he gets to school – by walking, taking the bus, or going in the car.
- Talk to your younger child about the change that will happen when his brother or sister goes to school.
- Explain that preschool, play groups, and community or church groups are like school.
- Let all your children tell you what they did at school that day.

Farmer's market

A farmer's market or the grocery store is a fun way to learn about different fruit and vegetables.

- Let your child feel how heavy a pumpkin and a carrot are.
- Talk about all the different colours of apples.
- Talk about which fruit and vegetables she likes to eat.
- Your older child can play a sorting game – pick something up and have her tell you if it is a fruit or a vegetable.





Songs and rhymes

Want to learn more songs and rhymes? Look for a parent-child music class in your area.

Apple song

Author unknown

Apples, apples, good to eat,
Apples, apples, juicy and sweet.
Pick them from a tree, buy them at a store.
Apples, apples, we want more!



Books

Go to your local public library to find these and many more great books.

Growing vegetable soup *by L. Ehlert*

The apple pie book *by Zoe Hall*

Fall leaves fall *by Zoe Hall*

Froggy goes to school *by Johnathan London*

Spot goes to school *by Eric Hill*

The little mouse, the red ripe strawberry, and the big hungry bear
by Don and Audrey Wood

Where are you? *by Francesca Simon and David Melling*



Crafts

For more craft ideas go to www.wondertime.go.com

Handprint falling leaves picture

Go for a walk to see the falling leaves. After, make hand and arm tracings into a colourful autumn picture!

Materials needed

1 large sheet of paper – big enough to trace one of your child's arms and hands with fingers spread.

Crayons or markers – at least 1 brown one

Orange, yellow, and red stamping pads

Instructions

On a large sheet of paper, trace your child's hand and arm. Extend the fingers upward to look like branches of a tree.

Have your child colour in the tree trunk with a brown crayon or marker.

Have your child press one finger at a time onto the stamp pad and then press it on the paper. This will make the leaves.

Keep making finger prints until your picture looks like a fall tree. Remember to put some fingerprints along the bottom of the picture to make leaves on the ground.

Keep a cloth handy to wipe off inky fingers!

Children learn through everyday moments.

Check out next month's activity page for more ideas.

Remember to . . .

- Follow your child's lead
- Add new words and ideas
- Repeat new words over and over