

Everyday and Everyway Talking about... September



Autumn is a great time to spend outdoors. The weather is still warm enough to enjoy being outside. Walking activities to the park or playing in the garden is a great chance to learn. Include your child in activities you do in the garden during autumn. Talk about what you do and why you do it. Play along 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 Activities

- 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 trousers?*
- Hide outdoor toys in the leaves and search for them.
- Let your child help put the leaves in the bag.

Tidy up the garden

Your child can have fun in the garden.

- He/she can pull up dead plants.
- He/she can dig in the dirt with a toy shovel.
- He/she can learn new words like, dig, dirty, clump, worm, root and rocks.

Back to school

Do you have an older child who goes to school?

- Talk about how he/she 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/her brother/sister goes to 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.
- Play a sorting game - pick something up and have him/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. Traditional nursery rhymes help develop your child's listening skills and early phonic skills which are so important in the process of learning to read.

Two little Dickey Birds
Sitting on a wall
One called Peter and one called Paul
Fly away Peter, fly away Paul
Come back Peter, come back Paul.

There's a big eyed owl
With a pointed nose
Two pointed ears and claws for toes
He sits on his tree and he looks at you
And flaps his wings and goes
Too-wit-too-woo

Children learn through everyday moments.

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



Books

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

Traditional fairy tales
Happy Birthday Dotty by Tim Warnes
Happy Birthday Bear by Richard Edwards
I don't want to go to school by Julia Sykes and Tim Warnes
Spot goes to school by Eric Hill
Titch by Pat Hutchins
Toffee takes a nap by Sally Chambers
The Scarecrow's Wedding by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler
The little mouse, the red strawberry and the big hungry bear by Don & Audrey Wood



Crafts

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

Handprint falling leaves pictures

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!

Remember to . . .

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