



LEAVES OF FALL

Instead of the green leaves we see in the Spring and Summer, have you noticed the leaves turning orange, red, and yellow in Fall? In the summer, leaves have a lot of chlorophyll which helps them absorb water and sunlight (part of photosynthesis) and gives them their green colour. As the weather gets colder and there is less sunlight, leaves stop producing chlorophyll and start changing color before they wither and fall. Let's explore leaves.

This week's activities: Fall Nature Exploration – Great Leaf Experiment

Fall Nature Exploration

Suggested Materials:

- Box or container
- Magnifying glass
- Leaves (as many different shapes and colours you can find)
- Tree seeds (acorns, pinecones)
- Bowl of water

Directions:

1. Find a box to put in the items you find in nature.
2. Collect leaves and tree seeds you find on the ground and put them in your box.
3. Look closely at each of the items and notice their size, shape and smell (you can use a magnifying glass, if you have one).
 - a. What do you notice about each of them?
 - b. What items do you think could be blown away by the wind?
 - c. Which items would a squirrel be able to carry up a tree?
 - d. Do any of the items float or sink in water?
4. You can record your findings on a piece of paper.
5. When you're finished with the items, put them back outside.

The Great Leaf Experiment

Suggested Materials

- 3 - 5 Coffee filters
- Scissors
- Markers
- Water
- Bowl

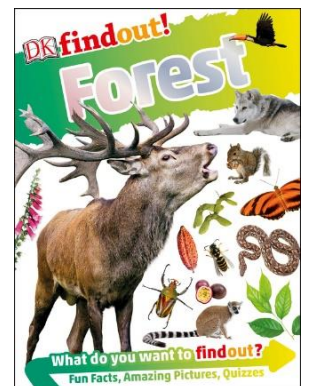
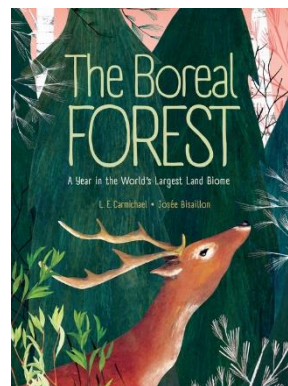
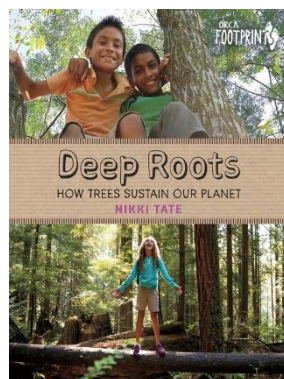
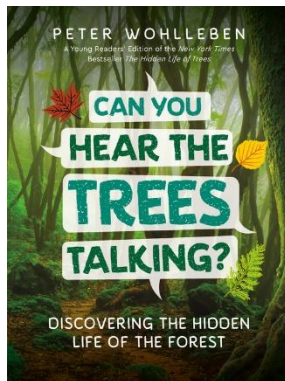


Directions

1. Cut the coffee filters into a leaf shape (you can draw one or trace one on the coffee filter first).
2. With a marker draw a circle in the middle of your leaf (make sure to leave the inside of the circle white).
3. Now take your leaf and fold it in half three times, making the middle into a point.
4. Take your leaf and dip the white pointy tip into the water (just the white part).
5. After a few seconds, the water will travel up your leaf, making it wet.
6. Let your leaf dry completely (you can lay out your leaf on cardboard to dry).
7. When dry, open the coffee filter leaf slowly revealing your beautiful leaves.

Links to eResources:

Check out our [eBooks](#) on these topics:



[Trees](#) | [Science](#) | [Seasons](#)

On Hoopla Kids, read *Trees* by Pamela Hickman to find out all about a tree's life cycle. Get a closer look at leaves in the book *Leaves* by Alicia Klepeis. Listen to the book *Tell Me Why: Leaves Change Color* by Linda Crotta Brennan.

Watch *Fletcher and the Falling Leaves* and *Autumn Fruits* (Episode 1 of *Misho and Robin*) on KanopyKids.

You can get a library card at hpl.ca/online-registration.

If you would like to share one or all your creations, please take a picture and post it to social media using the hashtag, #HPLmakesomething.

