

10 Fall Activities for Infants and Toddlers

1. Leaf Pile Crunch

Gather crisp, fallen leaves into a pile in a safe outdoor area or bring them indoors on a large tray. Have children stomp or jump on the leaves and listen to them crunch.

2. Fall Sensory Tub

Create a fall sensory tub for exploration of textures and aromas. Include mini pumpkins, dried ears of corn, twigs, apples, acorns, pinecones, leaves, etc.

3. Classroom Scarecrow

Use an old outfit consisting of pants, shirt, socks, hat, etc. and stuff with hay or straw to create a classroom scarecrow. Explain what a scarecrow's purpose is to children.

4. Fall Colors Scavenger Hunt

Have a fall colors scavenger hunt. Look for things that are red, orange, yellow, and brown.

5. Fall Flower Bulbs

Plant fall flower bulbs in an outdoor area and watch them bloom in the spring.

6. Bird Migration

Explain that many birds fly south for the winter so that they can stay warm outside. Encourage children to pretend they are a bird flying south for the winter by moving and flapping their "wings".

7. Fall Tree Art Activity

Use a large poster board to draw a tree trunk. Make multiple painted footprints and handprints of all the children in fall colors. Once dried, have them glue the "leaves" onto the tree.

8. Apple Sorting

Have apples available in a variety of colors (yellow, green, and red). Sort apples by color and count how many are in each group.

9. Animal Hibernation

Explain that bears and other animals hibernate, meaning they slow activity to conserve energy, during the cold winter months. Have children move slowly, pretending they are hibernating like bears.

10. Pumpkin Exploration

Put a protective layer on a child-sized table. Cut large pumpkins in half and invite children to explore the inside.