

Fall Newsletter

FALL IS HERE!



It's Fall!

Where did summer go?

We cannot believe it is already Fall! We hope everyone had a great and restful summer!

We are excited to work with you this season, and cannot wait to share cozy Fall tips and resources!

Private Facebook Group

Did you join our private Facebook group?

If you haven't joined our private Facebook group yet, and would like to be connected to other families enrolled in our program, email our Project Coordinator, Amanda, at johnsoac@usc.edu to be added to the group!

Group Connections

Signing up for Group Connections just got easier!

If you are currently enrolled in our program, we offer monthly group connections on different child development and parenting topics! Attend the group virtually, just like your regular sessions, and connect with other families! You will also receive a small gift and certificate for every group you attend! You can now sign up here:

<https://pat.usc.edu/group-connections/>

Pumpkin Spice Clay Recipe From: Fun at Home with Kids

We couldn't make a Fall newsletter without including some pumpkin spice! This recipe is non-toxic and does not contain gluten. Still be sure to watch your child as they play with the clay!

- Mix canned pumpkin, cornstarch, and pumpkin pie spice until you reach your desired consistency.
- Then play! Talk about their 5 senses while playing with the dough.



Gluten-Free Pumpkin
Play Clay



Fall Crafts for Babies and Toddlers



Fall Fingerprint, Handprint and Footprint Art

We are obsessed with fingerprint, handprint, and footprint art! Not only is it super cute, it becomes a treasured keepsake!

Use your imagination and create fun fall themed pictures using your child's finger, hand or footprints.

If you are worried about your child putting the paint in their mouths, edible paint can be created using yogurt and Kool-Aid.

Explore Emotions with Pumpkins!

- Pre-cut different faces and pumpkins out of felt or construction paper.
- Allow your child to build different faces, and talk about the different emotions while they create.
- You can also add magnets to the shapes to practice on the refrigerator.



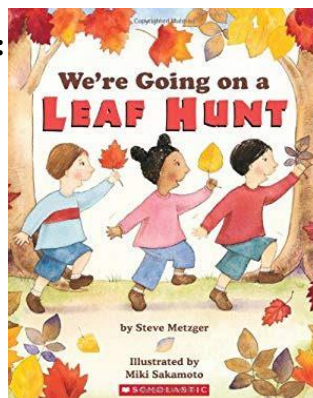
Be sure to supervise your child during all craft activities!

Fall Book Sharing

Recommended Book to Find at Your Library:

We're Going on a Leaf Hunt

Have you read We're Going on a Bear Hunt? It's a repetitive book children love! We're Going on a Leaf Hunt is similar, but with a cute Fall theme.



FEATURED PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION FROM PARENTS AS TEACHERS

Let's All Sing: Enjoying Music and Using Large and Small Muscles

What do we have?

- > Shakers, drumsticks, xylophones, whistles, pans, and other household objects that make noise

How do we do it?

Birth to 5 months

1. Get in a position where your baby can see your face.
2. Sing to him while he watches your mouth and eyes move.
3. Vary the volume and speed of your songs. Sing lullabies with hushing sounds. Hum a song. Then sing something exciting and lively.
4. Notice how your baby responds. When he seems tired, take a break.

6 to 36 months

1. Sing a song your child knows and encourage him to move to the beat. Babies who can sit up will bounce up and down to the music. Older children may clap, dance in place, or run around.
2. Dance with your child. If he can't stand up yet, hold him while you move with the beat. If he is standing up, hold his hands and gently move back and forth to the rhythm.
3. Give your child one of the instruments or household objects. Show him how to make noise with it. Let him play along to the beat.
4. Offer other instruments that make different sounds.
5. Encourage your older child to take turns with the instruments.
6. Play as long as your children are interested.

Safety tip

Remind your children that sticks, maracas, and other instruments with handles are for making music, not for hitting people, walls, or furniture.



Fall Tummy Time Activity: Leaf Sensory Play

Place leaves in a Ziploc bag and tape the bag to a hard floor for sensory play.

Be sure to watch your child during this activity.



Gross-Motor Fall Activity: Raking Leaves

You can use fake leaves from the dollar store, or real leaves for this activity. Use masking tape to tape off an area for your child to "rake" leaves into. They can "rake" the leaves into the area with a broom or child's plastic rake. Bonus: If you have the game Elefun, you can place the fake leaves inside to make it appear as though the leaves are actually falling! Be sure to supervise your child during this activity.

