



Activity ideas to support Learning at Home 2-5 year olds

Early Years Service, Children's Services

Buckinghamshire Council

Autumn Spotter Sheet



Can you find a leaf to match any of the colour that you are wearing?

Leaves

Leaves turn to their autumn colours as they die and fall off the tree. Trees lose water through their leaves and in winter they cannot get enough water up the tree if it is too cold.

- Explore the different shapes of leaves and see if you can find ones that are the same or different.
- Marvel at the different colours and shades.
- Enjoy scrunching through them.



Have fun making leaf crowns



Seed Heads

As the flowers die off you can see the dried seeds. The photos show some examples but you can find plenty more on your wanderers.

Some blow in the wind



Some hook onto animals or your clothes



Blackberries

Berries

The seeds are inside the berries. Birds and animals eat the brightly coloured berries.

The berries go through their digestive system and then come out the other end in the animal's poo! Next Spring the seeds may start to grow as new plants.

BEWARE: many berries that animals eat can be poisonous to humans so only let children touch or eat berries that you are sure are non toxic e.g. blackberries.



Rosehips



Hawthorn



Acorns

Nuts

You could **plant an acorn or a conker** then see if it starts to grow next Spring. Take a photo of now as a reminder. Squirrels bury the nuts then dig them up in the Spring to eat. They don't remember where they planted them so some of the nuts start to grow as new trees.



Conkers



Fruit



Have fun making and eating a fruit crumble together

100g plain flour
100g caster sugar
50g soft margarine or butter or vegetable spread
Fruit- blackberries and apple maybe



1. Put the fruit, thinly sliced or cooked slightly until soft, in the bottom of an ovenproof dish.
2. Mix other ingredients with finger tips until like breadcrumbs. Put on top of the fruit and cook for 20 mins 170 degrees or Gas Mark 5.
3. Enjoy!

Hibernating

Some animals snuggle away from the cold of the coming winter.

This includes squirrels and hedgehogs that find or make cosy places in piles of leaves, fir cones, moss and wood. Frogs do the same at the bottom of ponds. Some bees, ladybirds and lacewings spend the winter in cracks between stones or piles of wood. You can create a bug hotel to encourage such.

