



ACTIVITIES

CORNHUSK DOLL

What you need:

1 cornhusk per doll (If these are dry, soak in warm water for 15 minutes to make them pliable.)

Pipe cleaners — one per doll

Markers

What to do:

- Twist a pipe cleaner around the middle of a corn husk.
- Use the ends of the pipe cleaner as arms, bending them into shape.
- Flatten out the top part of the cornhusk as the face.
- Draw the face with the marker.
- Cut or fringe the top of the husk slightly to make hair.
- Cut the bottom of the husk and fluff it out to make it look like a skirt.

SIGNS OF FALL

Have the children look for signs of fall. Check the list below each day to see what the children have noticed or talk about one thing at a time and have the children look for it when they go outside or when they are with their parents. Talk about it again the next day. This will help the children with observation skills and they will learn the signs of fall.

Some signs of fall are:

- Red, orange, and yellow leaves out there on the ground.
- A rake to rake the leaves into piles.
- Piles of leaves in the yard to jump in.
- Acorns hiding in the grass.
- Pumpkins ready to become jack-o-lanterns.
- Trees with bare branches and no leaves left on them.
- Candy corn at the grocery store.
- Lots of apples at the market to buy.
- Frost on the window when I get up in the morning.
- Squirrels collecting nuts and acorns to store for winter.

Pumpkin Painting

A fun way to make a jack-o-lantern or fall decoration. No cutting necessary!

What you need:

Pumpkins —
small, medium, or large

Tempera paint

Paint brushes

Pencil

What to do:

- Be sure pumpkins are room temperature so the paint will not run.
- Draw a face or design on the pumpkin with the pencil.
- Paint the face or design on the pumpkin and let it dry.
- Enjoy your jack-o-lantern or fall decoration.



The Little Red House With No Doors and No Windows and a Star Inside

Once upon a time there was a little boy who grew tired of all his toys and games. He asked his mother, “What shall I do?” She said, “You shall go on a journey and find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside. Come back as soon as you can.”

So the boy started out on his journey and he found a little girl and he asked her, “Do you know where I can find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside?” She said, “Ask my father the farmer. He may know.”

So the little boy found the farmer and asked him, “Do you know where I can find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside?” The farmer laughed and said, “I’ve lived many years, but I’ve never seen anything like it. Go ask Granny, she knows everything!”

So the little boy asked Granny, “Please Granny,

where can I find a house with no doors and no windows and a star inside?” “I’d like to find that house myself. It would be warm in winter and the starlight would be beautiful,” said Granny. “Go ask the wind. Maybe he knows.”

The wind whistled past the boy and the boy said, “Oh wind, can you help me find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside? The wind cannot speak any words, but it went on singing ahead of the little boy until it came to an apple tree and shook the branches. Down came a beautiful red apple. The little boy picked it up and looked at it. It *was* a little red house that had no doors and no windows!

“I wonder,” said the little boy. He took it home and had his mother cut the apple in half. How wonderful! There in the center was a star holding little brown seeds. “Look, I found it!” he said.

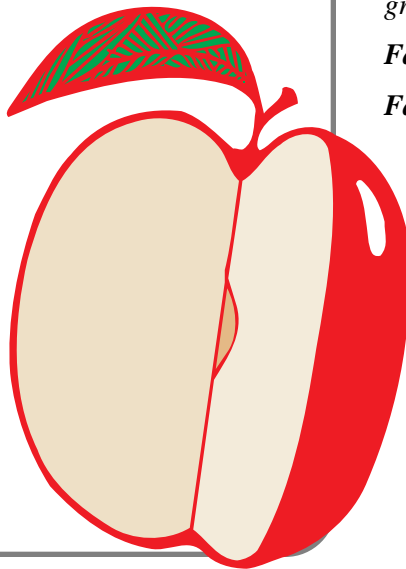
Apple Prints

What you need:

- Apples — cut crosswise so the “stars” show.
- Large sheet of paper
- Tempera paint — you might want to use red, yellow, and green for the colors of apples, but any colors can be used.

What to do:

- Place a small amount of paint in a shallow dish or bowl, one for each color.
- Dip the cut side of the apple in the paint.
- Press it onto the paper carefully and press down hard to make a print.
- Repeat to make prints on paper.
- Let dry a bit, then try another color.



LEAVES ARE FALLING

(Action poem — children can do motions of falling leaves with their hands, starting out high with their hands over their heads, then bending over as the leaves fall to the ground.)

Falling, falling, leaves are falling

Falling everywhere.

Tumbling, tumbling, down they're falling

Until the trees are bare.

For more
Activity ideas, visit us
on the web at:
betterkidcare.psu.edu
or call the telephone
help line at
1-800-859-8340.



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