



## Unit Theme: Fall Fun

### Topics: Fall, Leaves, Thanksgiving and Harvest



#### Cognitive Development: We will talk about

- Fall, the seasonal changes we see outside, and why leaves change colors.
- What harvest means.
- The history of Thanksgiving.
- What does it mean to be thankful? Have the children tell us what they are thankful for and chart their responses.
- The letters, Mm, Nn, Oo, Pp, Qq, Rr, the sounds they make and words that start with those letters.

#### Language Development:

##### Books:

- How Do You Know It's Fall? by Allan Fowler, Welcome Fall by Jill Ackerman, Fall is for Friends by Suzy Spafford, Celebrating Thanksgiving by Joel Kupperstein and The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein

##### Music:

- "The Turkey Wobble", "This Old Man" and "10 Little Fingers"

##### DVD:

- A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving

#### Gross Motor Skills:

- Rake up leaves on the playground and jump in the piles.
- Practice throwing and catching a ball.

#### Art: Each child will:

- Make a thankful leaf for the Thankful Tree (in the gym).
- Make a Native American headband or pilgrim hat to wear at our feast.
- String colored macaroni to make necklaces to wear to our feast.
- Help make 2 centerpieces for the tables for our feast.
- Collect leaves to make a colorful collage.

#### Self Help Skills:

- Practice dressing ourselves, putting on jackets and shoes.

#### Team Time:

##### Science:

- Use magnifying glasses to explore leaves, acorns and pinecones.
- Sink or float: predicting whether things will sink or float in water and then testing their theories.

##### Math:

- Patterns using bears and cars.

##### Fine Motor Skills:

- Practice zipping, snapping and buttoning.
- Lacing numbers.
- Use the leaves we find on our walks for leaf rubbings.

#### Social/Emotional Development:

- The children will work together to prepare a dish to share with the rest of the center at the Thanksgiving Feast.

#### Special Events:

- Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> - Matt the Music Man will be here to perform for the children.
- Nov. 21 - NCC and the Greenhouse follow a Thursday schedule
- Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> - Greenhouse Thanksgiving Feast - Preschool Two will gather with the rest of the center to dance "The Turkey Wobble" and enjoy a Thanksgiving meal.
- Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> - Pizza Lunch - please sign up in the office if you would like your child to enjoy pizza, fruit and a drink.
- Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving/Greenhouse Closed.