

Book to add to your child's library: *Touch and Feel Fall* by Scholastic



BABY GAMES & LANGUAGE

Autumn Word Play

Say and repeat gentle seasonal words: leaf, fall, cozy, cool, pumpkin, orange. Pause between words and watch baby's mouth and eyes.

Leaf Drop Game

Gently drop a soft fabric leaf or scarf above baby and say, "Down it falls!" Encourage eye tracking.

Texture Touch

Let baby touch soft fall-themed items: a cozy blanket, knit fabric, plush pumpkin, or soft leaf cutouts.

Color Talk

Point out warm colors: "This leaf is orange. Orange leaf!"

EXPLORATION

Sensory Basket (Fall Edition)

Include soft fabric leaves, a small plush pumpkin, a smooth pinecone (large and baby-safe), and a cozy scarf. Sit with baby and explore one item at a time.

Nature Sounds

Quietly mimic fall sounds: whoosh (wind), crunch (leaves), tap tap (acorns). Keep sounds soft and rhythmic.

Outdoor Moment

(weather permitting) Step outside for a brief cuddle walk. Talk about the breeze, trees, and sky.

MUSIC & MOVEMENT

Leaves Are Falling

(Tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

Leaves are falling, one by one,
Autumn time is so much fun.
Red and yellow, orange too,
Falling gently down to you.
Leaves are falling, one by one,
Autumn time is so much fun.

This Is the Way the Leaves Fall Down

(Tune of "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush")

This is the way the leaves fall down,
Leaves fall down, leaves fall down.
This is the way the leaves fall down,
All through the autumn day.

(Add motions: slow falling hands, soft tickles on baby's legs.)

Pumpkin, Pumpkin

(simple chant)

Pumpkin, pumpkin, big and round,
Pumpkin, pumpkin, on the ground.
Roll it, pat it, give a squeeze,
Pumpkin time is such a tease!

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING / BONDING

Face to Face Interaction

Hold baby close during songs and sensory play.

Make eye contact and smile while naming what baby is seeing and feeling.

Use reassuring language:

"You're safe."

"I'm right here."

"I love being cozy with you."

These shared moments help babies associate learning with warmth, comfort, and trust.