



Fall Colors

by Santina Bruni

Overview

Use this book to help children understand that the leaves of some trees change color in the fall.

Literacy Focus *Word Count: 23 words*

High Frequency Words

are, in, the, what

Content Words

leaves, change, color, fall, red, orange, yellow, brown

Reinforcing Decoding Skills

- Initial Consonants: *f, l* (*fall, leaves*)
- Making letter/word/sound relationships
- Initial Consonant Digraphs: *ch, wh* (*change, what*)

Print Conventions

- Understanding that print conveys meaning
- Capitalization: First words in sentences

Comprehension/ Thinking Skills

- Reading along as simple text is read aloud
- Connecting information to real-life experiences
- Using prior knowledge to understand text

Text Features

- Labels

Writing/Speaking and Listening

- Writing color words to label pictures
- Describing the details in pictures
- Listening for color words

Observe/Assess

See Retellings on page 170.

Science Focus

Content and Thinking Skills

- Understanding that the leaves of many trees change color in the fall
- Identifying red, orange, yellow, and brown as colors of fall leaves
- Identifying the season of fall
- Observing that things in nature can change

Background Information

In climates with four seasons, the leaves of deciduous trees change colors in the fall. The weather also changes in the fall. It gets cooler, so people wear warmer clothes. If you live in a mild climate where most trees are not deciduous, help children understand that the changing of colors occurs in places where it is cold in the winter. This text invites children to identify

several colors of leaves that can be seen in the fall.

Correlation to National Standards

Life Science

- Characteristics of Organisms

Earth and Space Science

- Changes in Earth and Sky

See Standards Chart on page 202.

Literacy Focus

Set the Scene

Have children discuss trees and identify some of their characteristics. Ask:

Are trees big or little?

What grows on trees?

Read and Discuss

Cover and Title Page

Show children the cover and title page. Read the title and the author's name. Discuss what children think the text will be about.

Pages 2-3

Invite children to read along with you as you read the text under the picture. Point out that the sentence begins with a capital letter. Help children identify the leaves of the trees that are changing color. Ask:

What happens to leaves in the fall?

What color are the leaves?

Pages 4-7

Have children look at the photographs on each page and identify the color of the leaves. Then ask children to name as many objects in the room as possible that are the same color. Point out the labels under the pictures. Ask:

What does the label tell us about the picture?

Respond

- Write the words *fall* and *leaves* on the board. Say a list of words and ask children to identify those that begin with the same *f* sound as *fall*. Write the words that begin with *f* under the word *fall*. Repeat the activity for words that begin with *l*.

○	○	○
fall	leaves	
fence	lamp	
foot	lock	
fan	lips	

- Say words that begin with the initial consonant digraph *ch*, such as *chain* and *child*. Have children name the word from the text that begins in the same way (*change*). Then repeat the activity with *wh* words, such as *whale* and *wheel*. Have children find the word in the text with the same beginning sound (*what*).



Content Words

Activity Master, page 48

Have children trace each color word and color the leaves on Activity Master, page 48.



English Language Learners

Point out the word *leaves* in the book. Explain that *leaves* can be a naming word for a plant part or an action word that means “goes away”; for example: *The leaves fell off the tree. She leaves her book on the desk.*

Science Focus

Science Concept

The leaves of many trees change color in the fall.

Activities

Color Groups

Divide children into four teams. Identify each group as the red team, orange team, yellow team, or brown team. Have each group draw objects using their team's color. Display the drawings in the classroom.

Collecting Leaves

Have children collect leaves that have changed color. Have children sort the leaves by color and paste them on posters.

In the Fall

Display pictures showing different seasons of the year. Help children identify and label the season shown in the pictures. Assist children in identifying clues, such as clothing and activities, that indicate the season.



Fall Scene

Activity Master, page 49

Have children circle the picture that shows a fall scene on Activity Master, page 49. Then have them color the pictures, making sure to color the leaves in the fall picture red, orange, yellow, or brown.

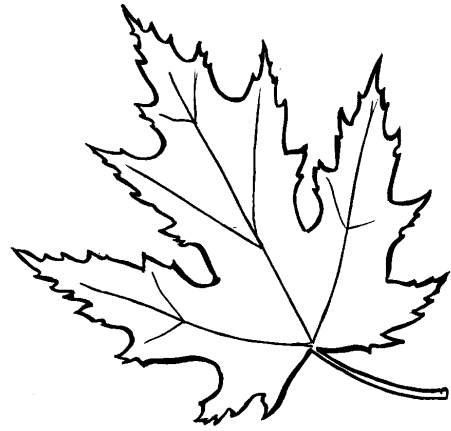
Name _____

Fall Colors

Trace the color word. Color the leaf that color.

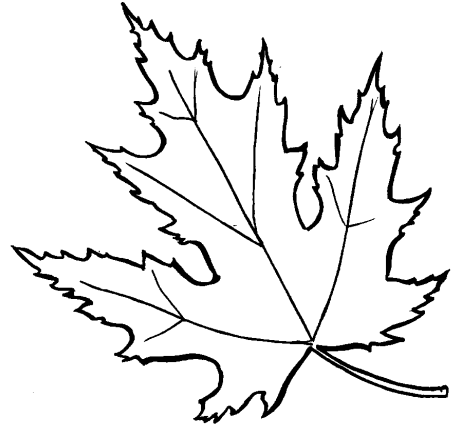
red

orange



yellow

brown



Name _____

Fall Colors

Circle the picture that shows fall.
Color the pictures.



© 2004 National Geographic Society