

# BACK TO NATURE

## Autumn Colors

### These leaves they are a changing

Did you know that red and yellow are always in leaves, you just can only see them in the fall? During the summer trees use sunlight to produce food using chlorophyll, which gives leaves their green color. In the fall, leaves stop producing food for the trees which causes the green to break down allowing the red and yellow pigments to shine through. Many factors determine how vibrant the colors will be each year. [Learn more here.](#)

### Science Experiment

#### Materials:

Multiple see through containers  
Spoon and bowl/mortar and pestle  
Leaves of many colors  
Coffee Filters  
Rubbing Alcohol



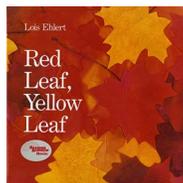
#### Instructions:

Using the bowl and spoon, crush up groups of colored leaves. Put like color leaves into containers. Add alcohol to the containers, cover and leave over night. In the morning, cut strips of coffee filter and put the end into the alcohol and drape over top of the container. Let sit for an hour or two and see what happens!

[Full instructions found here.](#)

### Autumn Story Books

1. Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf by Lois Elhlert [Click this link to watch it read aloud.](#)



2. Autumn Leaves by Ken Robbins [Click this link to watch it read aloud.](#)



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## Go Outside

When the leaves begin to fall, colors abound. Take a walk through a local park or down your street to find beautiful leaves. The good thing about fallen leaves is that no one cares if you take a few! Collect your favorite leaves for some fun crafts below.



## Leaf Pressing

When you get home with the leaves you can easily preserve them.

#### Materials:

Newspaper or Magazine  
Watered down Elmer's Glue or Mod Podge  
Paintbrush  
Flat heavy object (very large textbook or multiple books)  
Extra newspaper for table covering



- Step 1: Collect leaves
- Step 2: Put individual leaves in between multiple layers of paper, stacking the layers on top of each other. Place the books or heavy object on top of the stack of leaves and paper. Leave them sit for a day or two.
- Step 3: Once the leaves have sat for some time. Set out some newspaper over your workspace. Remove each leaf and paint it on one side with the glue or Mod Podge. Allow to dry and paint the other side.
- Step 4: Use the preserved leaves to make whatever design you would like.

Take a photo of your leaf creations and share on Facebook and Instagram using these hashtags:

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