

Title: Find the Leaf

Objective: Recognize leaf types

Time: 10 minutes

Materials Needed: 2-3 real or cut out leaves including simple, lobed and compound

Activity

Suggested Season: Fall or Spring

Suggested Grade Level: K-5

Indoors or Outdoors: Either

Theme: Plants

Topic: Leaf Type

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle with one person chosen to be in the middle.
2. 2-3 leaf types are put next to the child.
3. The child in the middle closes his/her eyes while the teacher silently picks a student to choose a leaf from the middle.
4. When the child is back to their spot they hide the leaf behind their back. All children in the circle will put their hands behind their back.
5. The child in the middle then opens his/her eyes and looks to see what leaf is missing. He/she declares "I believe the _____ (simple, lobed or compound) leaf is missing and I'm going to find out who took it!"
6. The child who took the leaf starts passing it around the circle.
7. Children pretend to be passing the leaf behind their back to trick the child in the middle.
8. He/She has 3 guesses as to who took the leaf. For each guess, the child declares, "I believe that _____ took the _____ (simple, lobed, or compound) leaf!"

Discussion Questions:

1. Was it easy to remember the leaf type that was missing? How could you remember which type was which?
2. What would make this activity more difficult?

Standards Addressed:

Science: 0.2.1.1.1.; 0.4.1.1.1.; 1.1.1.1.2.; 2.4.1.1.1.; 3.4.1.1.2.

Language Arts: K.I.B.; K.II.B.; K.III.A.; 1.III.A.; 1.III.B.1.; 2.III.A.; 3.I.B.1.; 3.III.A.1.; 3.III.A.2.; 4.I.B.1.

Math:

Social Studies:

Background Information:

- Deciduous trees have three leaf types: simple, lobed or compound.



A simple leaf is not divided into parts.



A lobed leaf has deeply indented margins.



A compound leaf has a number of leaflets on a single stalk.

Additional Resources:

- *Trees of Minnesota Field Guide* by Stan Tekiela

Correlates with:

Greeting – Matching Leaves

News and Announcements – Draw a Leaf