

FALL INTO CHRISTMAS with Diane Havens@gmail.com—PTAC Summer 2022

1. “ The leaves are blowing in the trees, 2x (sway back & forth)
Until they all fall down” (toss up and catch or watch)
Shaking, dancing, swaying, jumping, twirling, etc. using scarves as leaves.
2. Leaves in the trees: pick a child to stand very still and form the letter ‘T’. Each child will take his leaf and hang it on that tree. Count to 5 and shake them off. Change ‘trees’
3. Paint the leaves—using ribbon sticks (cardboard rolled piece off a clothes hanger & curly ribbon doubled and knotted in the middle. Hot glue inside the roll & stick the knot inside. Adjust length according to children’s heights.
 - Have the children go around the room and ‘color’ the leaves. Pretend to paint the area and talk about different colored fall leaves.
4. Rake the leaves—can use cut up noodles for the leaves, scarves or silk dollar store leaves and ½ noodles for the rakes.
5. Blowing the leaves—place leaves in the palm of hand and blow off & watch it fly.
6. Blow the leaves—using stiff paper plates to blow leaves on the ground. Gather the leaves onto plate. Toss them off & watch them fly.
7. Leaves in the tree—using contractor’s blue tape, create a ‘tree’ on the floor with branches. Each child can walk down the tree and place a leaf in the tree while balancing in the tree. (Same activity but different seasonal props: ornaments, easter eggs, shamrocks, acorns, apples, etc)

CHRISTMAS IS HERE!!!

8. Santa needs his reindeer—(or farmer needs to catch turkeys)—each child gets a tail (scarf) tucked into his back waist. The farmer (or Santa) must chase them & pull out the ‘tail’. If tail gets pulled, give it back to the child who goes to turkey or reindeer pen, and put back into waist. Then he gets back in the game. Change Santa or farmer.
9. Rudolph & Santa—using ropes as ‘reins’, one partner puts it on the waist of his partner (children are front to back). Rudolph holds onto the rope so it doesn’t slip down and when Santa says ‘giddy up’, Rudolph gallops with Santa holding the reins. (also great for Cowboy & horse during Rodeo theme)
10. Going to Grandmas for Christmas—Tape down 2 lines parallel, as far away as room allows 😊 have the children stand on one line. Pretend to put on backpack—make sure to zip it up. Then head over to Grandmas (other line). Oops, we forgot our toothbrush. Run back, pick it up, put in back pack, zip and head back to Grandmas. Forgot teddy bear, toothpaste, pillow, PJ’s, etc. This works for any seasonal trip: summer vacay, back to school, Spring break, etc.
11. Tree decorating—using ropes, taped triangles, hoop, and misc. objects—decorate your tree. (also could be cookie, Easter egg, Snowman). Can you walk around your tree, run, jump over, etc. Great for sorting after the activity. Finish sorting before the music ends—BEAT THE MUSIC.
12. Santa’s Sleigh—for this you will need an Ikea step stool & ropes. Have the child string the rope through holes, then pull Santa’s sleigh around the room. Can toss out ‘toys’ for Santa to pick up and deliver.

Just let your imagination soar!!! Use lots of language cues for language development.