

A Stay at Home Halloween Activity Book

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*More than 60 Fun Activities to Try at Home Using Recyclable
Materials!*

Nature Walk Number Sort

How?

Invite your child to go on an Autumn Halloween walk with you.

Collect autumn nature items along the way – leaves, flowers, twigs, conkers

Gather some blank pages and write numbers 1- 6 on the pages

Encourage the child to match a number of items collected to the numbers on the pages.

Encourage your child to talk about number. For example - Is 3 more than 2?

How do you know? What does 5 look like? 5 can look like 3 and 2 or 4 and 1 or 1 and 1 and 1 and 1 and 1!



Learning for Your Child?

Gross Motor Skills – walking, reaching to pick to leaves, bending down to gather items from the ground

Fine Motor Skills – sticking down the collected items

Early Mathematical Awareness – number

Slimy Sensory Bowl



How?

- Cook some spaghetti and dye it with red food coloring to look like brains!
- Add some mini spiders, skeletons, bugs and whatever else you can find at home / in the garden!
- **Encourage your child to close their eyes and dig their hands in and to see what they can find!**
- **Encourage lots of descriptive language!**

Learning for your Child:

- **Curiosity, creativity, communication and vocabulary development!**

ACTIVITY: Potato Print Pumpkins

HOW?:

Materials needed: potato , paint (orange, black and green), paper and a paintbrush or cotton bud

- Cut potato in half
- Assist you child to pour some orange paint onto plate
- Encourage your child to press one half of the potato into the paint and then press onto blank page – prompt them to use their muscle and down hard!
- Use green/black paint to draw faces onto the potato print pumpkins using a brush or cotton bud.
- Don't forget to draw the stalk onto the pumpkin!



LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD:

- FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT: Fine motor skills are developed as your child is using their hands, wrist and finger muscles to printing and paint. These skills are key in helping children develop the muscles in their hands that they will need for writing and drawing.
- CREATIVITY: by drawing faces onto the pumpkins, your child is enabled to be creative and imaginative. These are really important positive learning dispositions!



Halloween Masks!

How?

1. Gather some old bits of card and paper, a scissors, some drawing materials, cotton wool and whatever bits and bobs you have around the face to decorate your mask!
2. Encourage your child to draw an outline for their mask.
3. Help your child to carefully cut out the shape using the scissors.
4. Invite your child to paint, decorate and colour the mask - talk to them about the colours and shapes they are using.
5. Using a glue stick, stick the cotton wool to create spooky hair!
6. Using glue or tape, stick a lollypop stick or a twig onto the back of the mask so that your child can hold the mask up to their face...BOO!

Learning for your Child:

- Fine motor skills
- Language and communication skills
- Creativity and Imagination!



Scary Toilet Roll Mummy

How?

Materials needed: toilet roll holder, black paint, googly eyes, kitchen paper/toilet roll, glue and scissors

- Paint an empty toilet roll holder black (or whatever colour your child chooses for it's Mummy!)
- When the paint is dry, tear up strips of tissue paper and stick to the toilet roll to make a Mummy!
- Stick on some googly eyes using whatever materials you have at home, or draw on using white chalk!

Learning for your Child:

- Fine and Gross Motor Skills (tearing up the tissue using the big muscles in the shoulders, painting and sticking using the small muscles in the hands and fingers)



Spooky Sensory Bowls

How?

- Pumpkin seeds + water = Pumpkin Guts
- Cooked spaghetti & red paint/food colouring = Goblin Brain
- Cranberries & raisins = Witches Warts
- Cotton balls = Ghost poop
- Screws & bolts = Frankenstein Pieces
- Place ingredients into bowls and have fun mixing them up with your hands!
- Encourage your child to describe how the ingredients in each bowl feel – use lots of descriptive language (slimy, wet, cold, soft, crunchy, sticky)
- To extend the game, you could use blindfolds and take turns to feel the bowls and guess which bowl is which!

Learning for your Child:

- **Sensory Play:** The different textures in the bowls provide a tactile experience for your child and encourages 'scientific thinking', problem solving and language development!



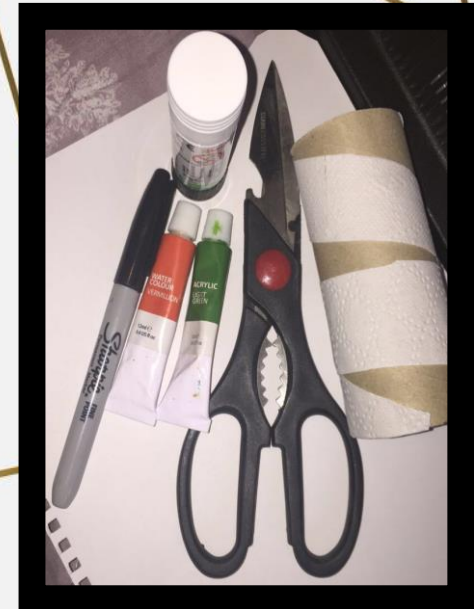
Halloween Friends

How:

- Cut out little eyes and mouths for your friends.
- Talk about the shapes you use – triangle, circle, square, rectangle
- Paint some empty toilet rolls any colour you would like and have fun decorating them by gluing on your shapes!

Learning for your Child:

- Develops positive learning dispositions: creativity and independence
- Develops motor skills -> cutting with scissors.



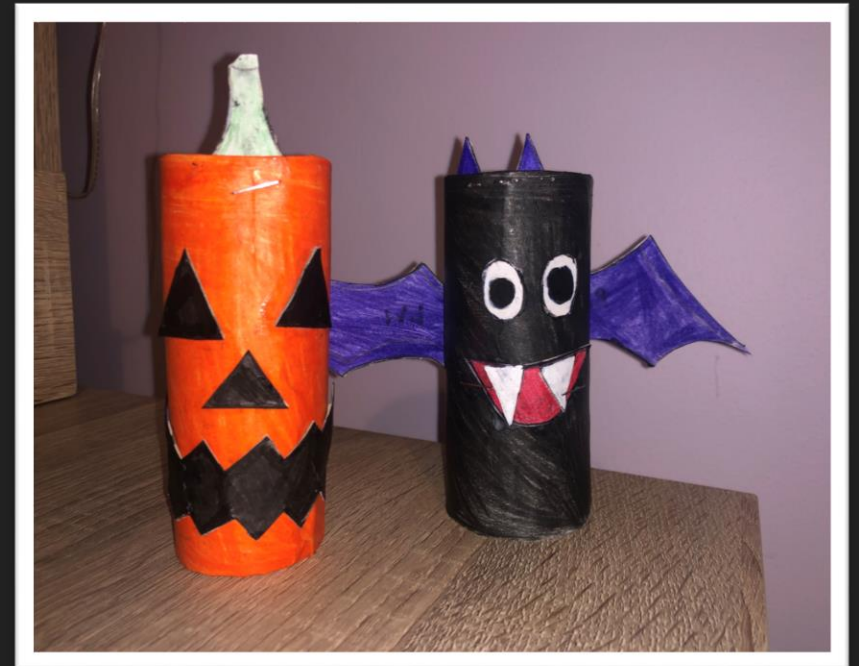
Recycled Halloween Decorations

How?

- Encourage your child to paint the toilet paper roll a colour of their choice.
- Suggest to your child that they could draw and cut out different types of eyes, mouth etc. Talk about the shapes they use!
- Suggest using different colours and different types of materials such as paint, colouring pencils, crayons, glitter, cardboard, matchsticks etc.
- Encourage your child to tell you what decoration they are making by using vocabulary related to Halloween, using words like pumpkin, witch, skeleton, spider, bat!

Learning for your Child:

- Positive learning dispositions such as imagination, creativity, independence and concentration
- Language Development
- Hand-eye coordination
- Fine motor skills - cutting, sticking and drawing!



Spooky Bats

How?

1. Collect 2 empty toilet rolls from your house!
2. Wrap the toilet rolls in either black paper or card (or whatever else you have at home)
3. Cut out 4 bats wings using card or paper in any shape your child chooses. Describe the shape of the wings with your child – spikey, pointy, triangles etc!
4. Stick the wings to the toilet roll with glue or tape
5. Add googly eyes or if you don't have them draw them or paint them on!

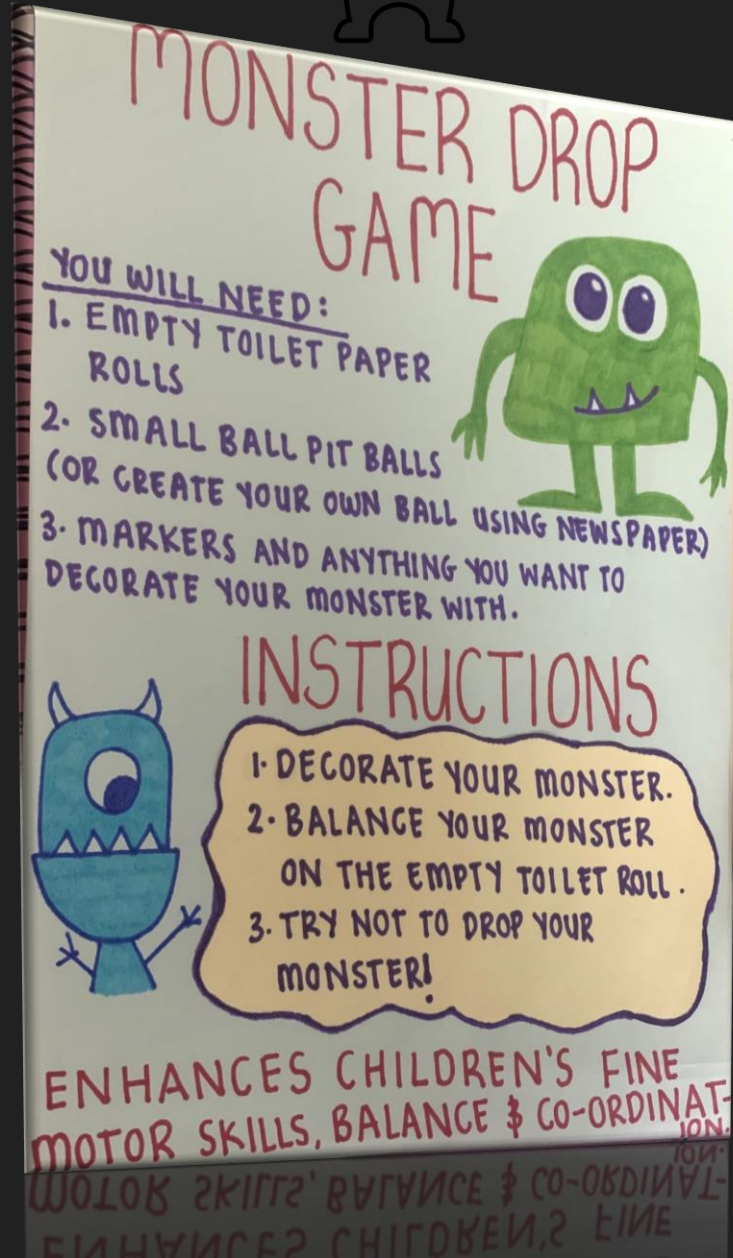


Learning for your Child:

Fine motor skills: Fine motor skills are developed when your child uses the smaller muscles in their hands, fingers and wrists by cutting, sticking and drawing.



MONSTER DROP GAME



HOW ?

- ✓ Using markers, encourage your child to design and decorate their monster head!
- ✓ Prompt your child with questions to encourage them to use their imagination - I wonder what your monster will look like? I wonder what kind of eyes it might have?
- ✓ Why not encourage your child to draw some scary clothes for the monster on the toilet roll holder!
- ✓ Encourage your child to describe their monster using lots of descriptive language. Focus colours, shapes, sizes and adjectives!
- ✓ Encourage your child to use both of their hands to balance their monster head on the toilet roll holder and away they go – take a walk and don't drop your monster!

LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD:

- ✓ Fine motor Skills
- ✓ Gross Motor Skills (bilateral coordination and balance)
- ✓ Language and Communication Skills



Autumn Water Play

How?

- Use a bucket/basin and fill it with water
- Encourage your child collect items of different size, shape, texture, colour and weight to add to the water (stones, leaves, paper, conkers, oranges). Suggest going on an 'autumn adventure' to find the treasure!
- Encourage your child to pick out some tools that they will use to 'go fishing'! For example - a cup, a spoon, sieve or tweezers!
- Encourage your child to feel the objects as they put them into the water, talk about the colour, size, weight and texture.
- Challenge your child to use a variety of utensils to pick up the objects from the basin/bucket!

Learning for your Child:

- Fine motor skills – scooping out!
- Gross motor skills – going for the walk!
- Language – heavy, light, big, small, crunchy, hard, soft!



Toilet Roll Mummy!

HOW?

You will need a toilet roll, toilet paper, glue, scissors, googly eyes/ black paint, paint brush.

- Cut the toilet paper into small strips using a scissors
- Lightly cover the toilet roll in glue
- Stick on the strips of toilet paper around the roll
- Use black paint as the eyes using a paint brush or stick on googly eyes
- **Encourage your child to give their Mummy a name and a personality!**



LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD:

- Fine motor Skills
- Language and Communication Skills
- Imagination
- Creativity
- Independence



Activity: Spooky Paper Plates

How?

Materials needed: Paper plates, paint and paint brushes, paper, scissors, glue and black marker

- Lay out your materials
- Help you child to paint the paper plates
- Encourage them to draw eyes, a mouth and a nose to stick onto the paper plates. Talk about the shapes they are making.
- Cut out the eyes, mouth and nose using a safety scissors – circles, squares, ovals, triangles
- Stick on the eyes, mouth and nose using a glue stick!

Learning for your child:

- Fine Motor Skills – cutting, sticking, painting and drawing!
- Early Mathematical Awareness – shape, colour, size!



Halloween Potato Printing

How?

- × Encourage the child to make their own homemade paint!
- × Blend 1/2 cup of flour with 1/2 cup of salt. Add 1/2 cup of water, mix it all together and then add food colouring!
- × Cut each potato in half ensuring that it is flat, then carve faces on the raw surface. Encourage your child to describe what kind of faces they would like to carve!
- × Place the potato into the paint, then push down onto the paper and make some spooky halloween prints!

Learning for your Child

- × This activity promotes the development of lots of positive learning dispositions: creativity, imagination, communication, problem solving and curiosity!



Eyeball Dig

How?

- Prepare a bowl of flour and rice – encourage your child to mix it all together using their hands!
- Add jelly teeth, spiders, eyeballs and whatever other spooky items you have at home!
- Find an old piece of cloth or a scarf to use as a blindfold and take turns to do a spooky blindfolded eyeball dig!
- Encourage your child to describe what they can feel when they dig their hands into the mess to retrieve a treat!

Learning for your Child

- Fine motor development: Fine motor skills are developed as your child manipulates the items to feel what they are! Lots of wiggling and digging with those fingers and hands!
- Language development: This activity promotes vocabulary development by your child describing what they can feel!



Spooky Bat



HOW ?

- Fold the top of the toilet roll to create the bat ears
- Paint the toilet roll any colour your chooses
- To make the wings, fold a page in half and cut, and fold one half of the paper and cut again so that you are left with a quarter piece
- Fold the top corners of the page by roughly 1 centimetre
- Flip the page over and fold the new top corners by roughly 1 centimetre but in the opposite direction (folding it backwards)
- Repeat this process the whole way down the piece of paper
- Staple the end of the paper to secure it
- This will create a paper fan that will be used as the wings for the bat
- Repeat this process again with the other quarter piece of the page that you had cut previously
- Make sure that the paint has dried before proceeding
- Glue one of the side of the fan and stick it to one side of the bat
- Do the same thing to the other fan and stick it onto the other side of the bat
- To create the face you may cut out circles for eyes, draw eyes on or stick on stickers
- For the mouth you may draw a mouth on or cut one out of a piece of paper or stick on stickers

HOW YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN

- This activity can develop positive learning dispositions including creativity and imagination. This activity also helps with fine motor development

How?

- 1) Use a scissors to cut the egg carton box into 6 small containers.
- 2) Encourage your child to paint a monster face onto 3 of the containers, the other 3 containers will form the monster's bodies.
- 3) Encourage your child to use lots of descriptive language, whilst designing their own unique monster.
- 4) Add on extra materials like pipe cleaners, googly eyes or extra cardboard to allow you child to explore different textures and shapes.
- 5) Attach the head carton onto the body carton using masking tape or tie a ribbon around the two cartons to keep them together.
- 6) Put tissue paper and sweets inside the monster boxes and hide them around the house to allow this art to become a scavenger hunt!

Purpose and skills

- Asking children to create a unique piece of artwork develops positive learning dispositions such as : creativity, imagination, problem solving and independence
- Talking to your child about what they are making and encouraging them to describe their work develops language and communication skills

Egg Carton Monsters





Activity: Feed The Ghost!



Materials needed: Plastic or cardboard container, white paper, scissors, tape, black marker, pom poms or felt or any other soft material.

How?

- Cover your container with white paper and use tape to stick it in place.
- With your black marker, draw the face of a ghost on the front of your container.
- With a scissors, cut out a hole on the top of your container.
- Using felt, pom poms or any other soft material, cut small shapes to use as the 'food'.
- Invite your child to feed the ghost! You could create a background story to help the child be more engaged and excited.

Learning for your child:

- Fine motor skills are developed. Fine motor skills involve the use of the small muscles that control the hand, fingers and thumb. The development of these skills help children perform important tasks like feeding themselves, grasping toys, writing, drawing and more.
- Hand-Eye coordination is developed. This is the ability to do activities that require the simultaneous use of our hands and eyes.



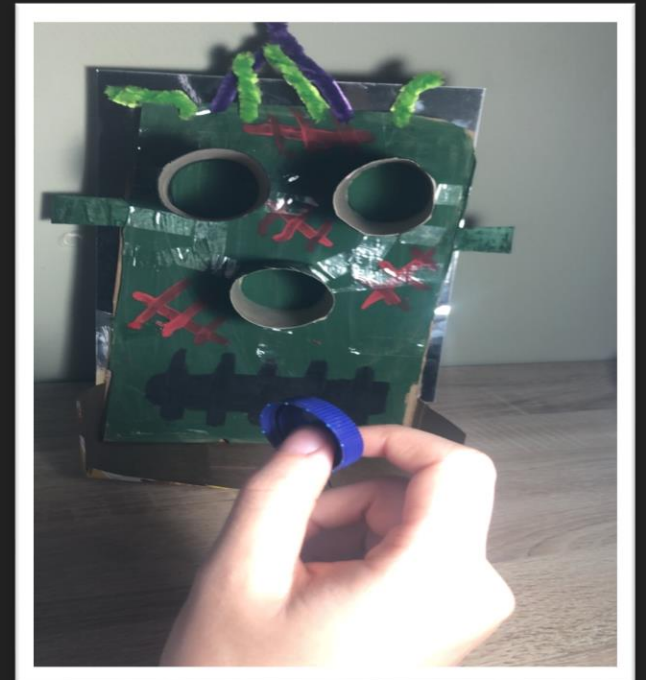
Monster Throw

HOW?

- Grab an old cereal box and start by helping your child to cut off one of the large sides.
- Paint that side in your chosen colour, I picked green!
- Then find some empty toilet tube holders and paint them. Stick them to the piece of cardboard, and these are now the eyes and nose of the monster!
- Add some scrap paper and use red paint to make an extra scary mouth for your monster!
- Use an old bottle cap or any other object you can find as the device for throwing into the target.
- If you wanted, you could also make two holes on the top of the cardboard and use string or pipe cleaners to hang the game on a hook for more fun and extra challenge!
- Encourage your child to throw lids at the monster and see if they can hit the targets!

Learning For your Child:

- **Gross Motor Skills:** Your child develops their gross motor skills by throwing the bottle cap at the target! Encourage them to throw using an underarm throw and an overarm throw!
- **Concentration:** Your child develops their concentration skills as they must concentrate in order to get the bottle cap into the target.
- **Creativity skills:** Are developed in the making of the game when painting and decorating the monster.



Spooky Spider Cookies

How?

Materials needed: Oreo biscuits, Jellybeans, and licorice

- Open the Oreo biscuit and break it in two halves. Talk to your child about halves!
- Cut the black licorice into eight legs of the same length and stick them into the white icing on the Oreo. Talk about length and the number 8!
- Place the other cookie back on top.
- Then help your child to cut some Jellybeans in half and place them on top, or use any small circular sweets or sweets that can be cut into small circles for the eyes of the spider. Draw your child's attention to the circle shape.
- An egg carton, black paint, googly eyes and pipe cleaners could also be used as an alternative to making these spooky spiders.

Learning for your child:

Early Mathematical Awareness – shape, length and number!



Easy To Make Ghost!

Materials needed: Cotton wool ,paper, glue, any other bits and bobs you have to decorate!

How?

- 1.Using a safety scissors, help your child to cut out the shape of the ghost on old recycled paper
- 2.Glue the cotton wool down on your ghost.
- 3.Decorate your ghost using whatever materials you can find at home and have fun !

Learning for your Child:

Fine motor development:

Fine motor skills are being developed as the child is using their hands, wrists and finger muscles cut and stick. These skills can help a child develop their muscles in their hand for writing and drawing.

Creativity:

By encouraging your child to decorate their ghost it allows them to be imaginative and creative. This is very important for a positive learning disposition.



BALLOON MONSTERS



How?

Using balloons and any other material (scrunched up newspapers or an old ball!), encourage your child to be creative and make some cool balloon monsters!

Encourage your child to draw shapes on paper or cardboard and use a safety scissors to cut them out and glue onto the balloon.

Prompt your child to go outside and collect some natural materials like leaves and twigs and use them as features on the balloon.

Learning for your Child:

Fine motor skills

Gross motor skills

Creativity

Imagination

Language and Communication

Activity: Bottle Monsters

How?

Find a large recyclable plastic fizzy drink bottle.

Cut the top quarter off where the start of the label begins (adult-led and supported)

Rip off the label and put it in the bin.

Encourage your child to get creative by talking to them about what type of monster they will make.

Encourage your child to name all the names of colors they know and ask them what color they would like to paint the bottle.

Encourage your child to paint independently – to paint the bottle and to paint the features of the face.

Engage in lots of rich discussion and chat and use lots of descriptive language throughout the process!

The final step is too cut out the shape for the mouth (adult-led and supported!)

To add even more fun... 'feed' your monstor withs pom-poms, rolled up newspaper or sweets!

Learning for your child

- Developing concentration is important skill for children to acquire to enable them success in learning.
- Fine motor skills help your child with the coordination of the small muscle movements in their hands + fingers.
- Communicating ideas - this is important for children's language development.



'ZOMBIE' EGG AND SPOON RACE

Materials needed: wooden spoon, ball, poster paint, markers, masking tape

How?

- Grab a wooden spoon (paint it a Halloween colour optional!)
- Take your ball and turn into an eyeball using masking tape – encourage your child to scrunch it up into a ball shape!
- Draw a spooky eyeball on the masking tape!

LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD:

- Gross motor skills – balance and core strength
- Fine Motor Skills – scrunching up the tape
- Hand eye coordination
- Attention building and concentration



Sensory Spaghetti

How?

Cook some spaghetti in a pot.

Use black food coloring to paint the dry pasta shapes as bats. Talk to your child about the shape of the pasta and the shape of a bat.

Use red and black food coloring to draw vampire faces on marshmallows.

Rinse the spaghetti with cold water to stop it sticking together and add in the red food coloring. Encourage your child to mix it around in a big bowl and get their shoulder muscles working!

Finally, add it all to a big bowl and mix it with your hands! Hide items in the spaghetti and encourage your child to close their eyes and dig their hands in and see what they can find!

Use lots of rich and descriptive language and encourage your child to describe how the spaghetti feels!

LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD:

This sensory play activity helps children to develop their fine motor and their language and communication skills, in particular to develop descriptive vocabulary (squishy, slimy, cold, wet, soft)



Activity: Ghost Toilet Paper Roll Windsock

How to:

- ✓ Start by painting the toilet roll white.
- ✓ When paint is dry punch two holes for ribbon/thread on one side of the roll.
- ✓ Thread yarn through the holes and tie a knot!
- ✓ With a black marker or paint draw eyes and a mouth for your ghost
- ✓ Cut long strips of crepe paper/tissue paper.
- ✓ Add glue on one end of the tissue paper and stick on the inside of the roll and repeat!!



Learning for your Child:

Fine motor skills are developed when painting, cutting and drawing.

They involve the use of the small muscles that control the hand, fingers, and thumb. They help children perform **important** tasks like feeding themselves, grasping toys, buttoning and zipping clothes, writing, drawing, and more.

Keeping a balance between listening and contributing involves a great deal of concentration and focus. The ability to concentrate and sustain attention on all kinds of tasks is crucially **important** because it helps **kids** learn and improve, which leads to self-confidence and positive self-esteem.

Activity: Pumpkin Bath

How?

- Take 3-4 oranges from the fruit bowl
- Take a washable marker
- Encourage the children to turn the oranges into pumpkins – use lots of language to describe the faces and the emotions of the pumpkins!
- Take a basin or a big bowl and fill it with soapy water – encourage your child to pour the water in and mix the water with their hands to make bubbles!
- Prompt the children to pop their pumpkins into the bath and to scrub their faces clean!



Learning for your Child

- By drawing and decorating the oranges and mixing the bubbles and washing the 'pumpkins', your child is practicing their fine motor skills - they are using the small muscles in their hands, fingers and wrist. Fine motor skills are really important pre-writing skills!
- This activity also promotes your child's creativity – this is a positive learning disposition!

Spudzer The Spooky Ghost

How?

○ CHOOSE YOUR POTATO..

Ask your child to pick out a potato that they would like to use for their masterpiece.

○ CHOP 'EM!

Using a safety knife, help your child to cut a small piece off the bottom of the potato so it can stand easily. Now cut the potato in 2 equal halves length ways. Talk to your child about the concept of 'half'!

○ DUNK 'EM

- Pour out some white paint

- Invite your child to dunk the potato into the paint

- Guide them to press the potato onto the sheet and apply pressure. Allow them to repeat this step as many times as they like.

○ WAIT! Wait until the paint has dried

○ MAKE A FUNNY FACE! Using a small amount of black paint use your fingers to create your ghosts spooky face.

Learning for your Child:

Fine motor skills are used when dotting the eyes on your ghosts. **Gross motor skills** are used when stamping your ghost, your child uses their shoulder muscles and develops core strength. **Bilateral** Coordination - when holding the page still with one hand whilst using the other to stamp or dot.



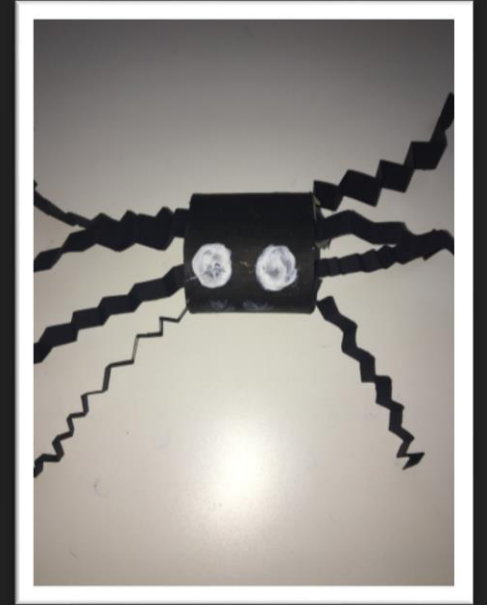
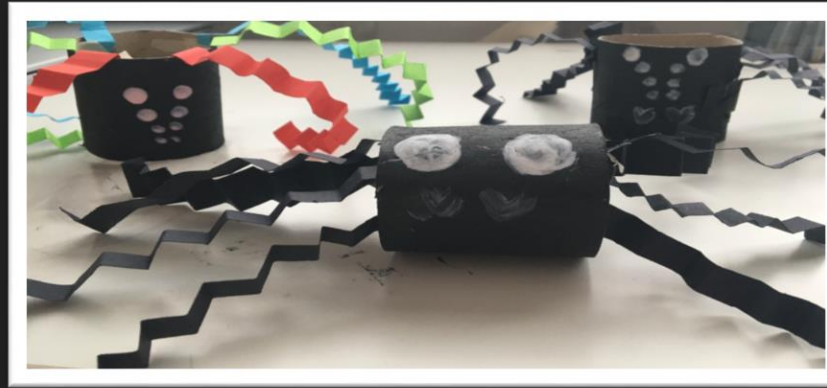
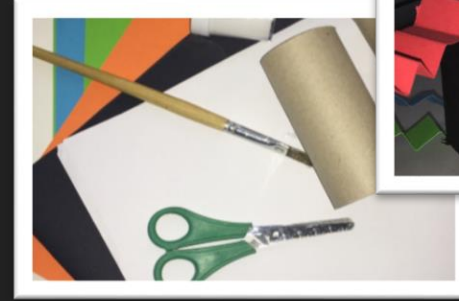
Spooky DIY spiders!

Materials you will need:

- Scissors
- Cardboard toilet rolls
- Black and white paint
- Masking tape
- Coloured/white/black paper
- paintbrush

How?

1. Cut the cardboard roll in half
2. Paint each roll black
3. Cut strips of black or coloured paper
4. Fold the strips and tape them to the roll with masking tape
5. With white paint add some spooky eyes



Learning for your Child:

This activity is great for helping your child develop their Fine Motor skills. Children need to develop the smaller muscles in their hands and fingers by cutting with scissors, or using a paintbrush so that their hands will be nice and strong and ready to grip a pencil when they begin writing in school!

Activity: Spooky Fruit Decoration

How?

Materials needed: orange, apple, knife, spoon and a black marker

1. With your child, use a safe tool to cut off the top of the orange
2. Use spoon(or hands) to remove contents of the orange – use lots of language here to describe how this feels!
3. Use black marker to decorate fruit as your child likes, for example - an orange as a pumpkin, or apple as Frankenstein

Learning for your Child

Your child will practice their fine motor skills while using their hands to empty the contents of the orange.

Your child will develop positive learning dispositions – creativity and imagination as they decorate their fruit as they want.



Match the Pumpkin!

Materials: orange paper, green and black card, glue stick, scissors and a pencil. Alternative materials: Paper plates, or plain A4 paper painted or coloured or any recyclable paper you have at home!

How?

1. Make an even number of circles, I made 6! Talk about odd number and even numbers to your child!
2. Draw different shaped mouths, noses and eyes on your black paper and cut them out. Also cut out green squares for your stalks. Draw your child's attention to the shapes – circles, triangles, squares!
3. Glue the faces onto the orange circles, ensuring you have the same pumpkin twice so that you can play matching!
4. Place all your pumpkins upside down. Explain the matching game to your child. What does matching mean?
5. Take turns to play the game!

Learning for your child:

- ❑ Early Mathematical Awareness: Shapes and Matching
- ❑ Concentration: this game will enable your child to practice skills of attention building, memory and concentrating as they try to remember where the different pumpkins are placed.



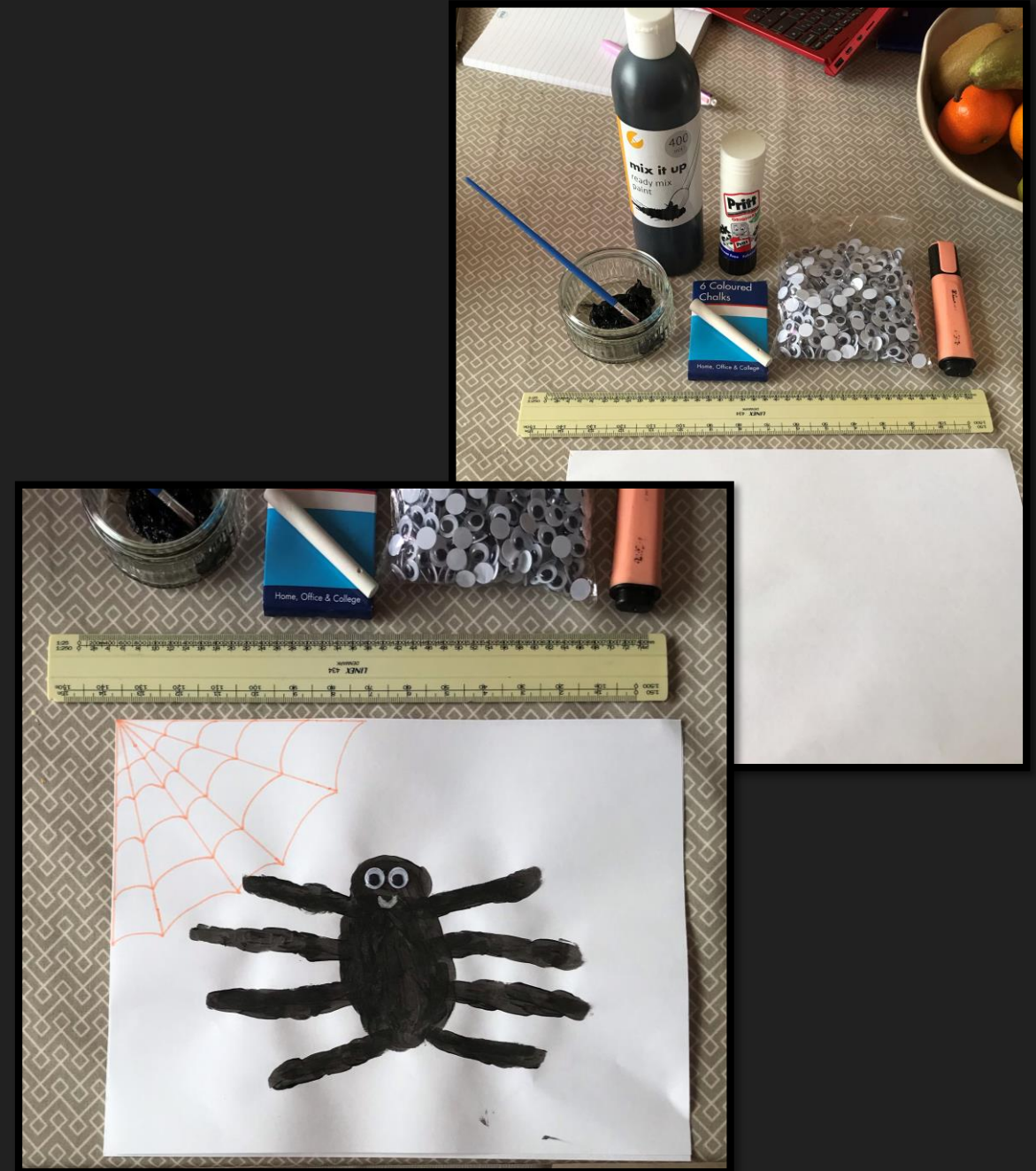
Activity: Arachnid Fun! 😊

How?

- ✓ Get a piece of paper or card and draw a spider web in the corner of the page with chalk or a marker.
- ✓ Next, pour the paint in a jar and paint the upper section of your palm to the top of your fingers and lean it onto the page sideways.
- ✓ Repeat the second step again in the opposite direction and paint in the gaps to make legs and a spider body.
- ✓ You can add googly eyes to the spider and add a mouth with chalk or a marker.
- ✓ Have fun!

Learning for your Child:

1. Hand-eye coordination
2. Mobility skills
3. Communication
4. Fine motor skills
5. Creativity
6. Imagination
7. Creative problem solving
8. Concentration



Will it Stick? – A Halloween Activity

How?

- Using scissors and masking tape, begin to cut out pieces at different lengths and stick to your doorway
- You can stick the pieces diagonally, vertically and horizontally, making sure to overlap the pieces until a spider web shape appears.
- Gather random materials from your house, I used newspaper, left over worksheets and old sweet wrappers. Scrunch these pieces up until they form balls. You can even decorate these pieces to look like creepy crawlies!!
- Now, try to throw, stick, toss and roll these balls into the web. Look at which ones will stick. Will the heavier pieces stay on the web or will they fall? Will it stick?

Learning for your child:

- This activity is excellent for practicing fine motor skills by cutting, pressing the tape down and scrunching the materials into balls
- Similarly, gross motor skills are developed here by tossing, throwing, and jumping
- By asking your child, "will it stick?" they will be prompted to develop early mathematical awareness such as problem solving. Encourage your child to notice how the heavier materials will not stick to the web whereas the light materials will stay there.
- This activity also provides opportunities to develop patience, cooperation and communication skills



ACTIVITY- Halloween Hand Art

How? (Materials used are shown in photo)

- Help your child to trace their hand with a pencil on a piece of coloured card/paper.
- Together, cut out the traced hand using scissors.
- Use varied materials and markers to create different characters, patterns and designs
- To make the skeleton - stick a cotton buds on each individual finger.
- To make the spider and ghost- cover hand in paint and press on a piece down on the card.
- Design the the hands with markers, plasters, googly eyes and other materials you might have at home!



Learning for your child:

- Fine motor development - this activity allows children to get the small muscles in their hands and fingers working. For example using child safe scissors to cut the paper/card. This is important the development of for pre-writing skills.
- Positive learning dispositions- this activity allows children to develop positive learning dispositions such as creativity and imagination. These learning dispositions enable children to engage positively in learning experiences.



Halloween Tin Can Bowling!

How:

- Grab 6 old empty tin cans and a pair of socks!
- Get creative and decorate the tins in spooky Halloween styles!
- Stack your tin can bowling pins with three at the bottom, two in the middle and one at the top. Encourage your child to work this out!
- Each player has three attempts to knock all the tins down with the pair of socks.
- You get one point for three attempts, two points for two attempts and three points for one attempt!
- To increase level of difficulty, add weight to the cans, such as a small bag of rice, or move further away when throwing socks.

Learning for your Child:

- Communication and Language
- Gross/ Fine Motor Skills
- Early Mathematical Awareness
- Concentration
- Hand-eye Coordination
- Creativity



Halloween Ghost!

HOW?

Using JUST toilet paper you can make this spooky little ghost for Halloween!

- Using some toilet paper, roll about 5 sheets into a ball to make the ghosts head
- Then layer some more toilet roll sheets over the ball that you just made to make the ghosts body
- Then take some string and tie it around the neck of the ball to join all the toilet paper sheets together
- Then take a scissors and cut up the ends of the toilet paper to make the ghosts strings
- Attach some string to the top of the ghosts head using cello tape to make a loop to hang up your decoration
- Finally draw on a spooky face and your ghost is done. YAY!



LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD:

Fine motor skills - from this activity your child is developing fine motor skills which are essential for their writing development. By using their hands and wrists they are strengthening their hand muscles.

Creativity skills- this activity encourages your child to be creative. They can explore their creativity by making their own unique little ghost. They can use different materials such as, paint, markers etc. to make their little ghost unique to them!



Puffy Ghost Halloween Craft 🎃 🕷️ 👻

How:

- Draw the shape of a ghost on paper and cut it out, glue the cut out shape to card no cut around the paper.
- Glue cotton wool balls down onto the cut out of the ghost.
- Cut out an O shape mouth for the ghost, glue it on to the cotton wool.
- Glue on 2 googly eyes.

Learning for your Child:

- Fine motor skills are developed as your child is drawing, cutting and gluing. These skills are key in helping children develop the muscles in their hands that they will need for drawing and writing.
- Creativity and imagination skills are developed as the child has to draw the shape of the ghost themselves and cut around the shape, they get to create their own ideas for the facial expressions and use their imagination!



Activity: Flour Tower

How?

- Pour the flour onto the plate in the shape of a volcano. Talk to you child about the shape.
- Place a ball (or something similar!) at the top of the pile of flour...carefully!
- Take turns to scoop away the flour trying not to drop the ball using a spoon!

Learning for your Child:

- Hand eye coordination
- Fine motor development
- Attention building
- Concentration



Clay or Playdough Pumpkins

How?

- 1) Mix 8tbsp of flour with 2 tbsp of salt in one bowl. In a separate bowl mix together 60ml of water, a few drops of orange food colouring and 1 tbsp of vegetable oil.
- 2) Pour coloured water into flour mixture and bring together with spoon. Flour surface and begin to knead the mixture. Continue to add more flour if sticky.
- 3) When texture of the playdough is to your liking, encourage the child to break up the playdough into as many pieces as they want and roll it into a ball.
- 4) After they are happy with the shape of the pumpkin they've made, gather house essentials that would make a great stalk for the pumpkins.
- 5) By using uncooked spaghetti noodles and cutting the top of balloons can work. This can be done by putting the noodles in the balloons and sticking them in the top of the pumpkins.
- 6) Encourage them by getting them to stick the "stalk" of the pumpkin into the pumpkin itself and to talk or think about the colour of the pumpkin and stalk, the shape, the colour and the smells.

Learning For Your Child:

- 1) Motor skills/development which helps your child with writing, zipping up their jackets, completing puzzles and even clapping their hand!
- 2) This activity encourages creativity and independence – important learning dispositions for your child to acquire.



Activity: *Easy paper chain making for Halloween* 🎃

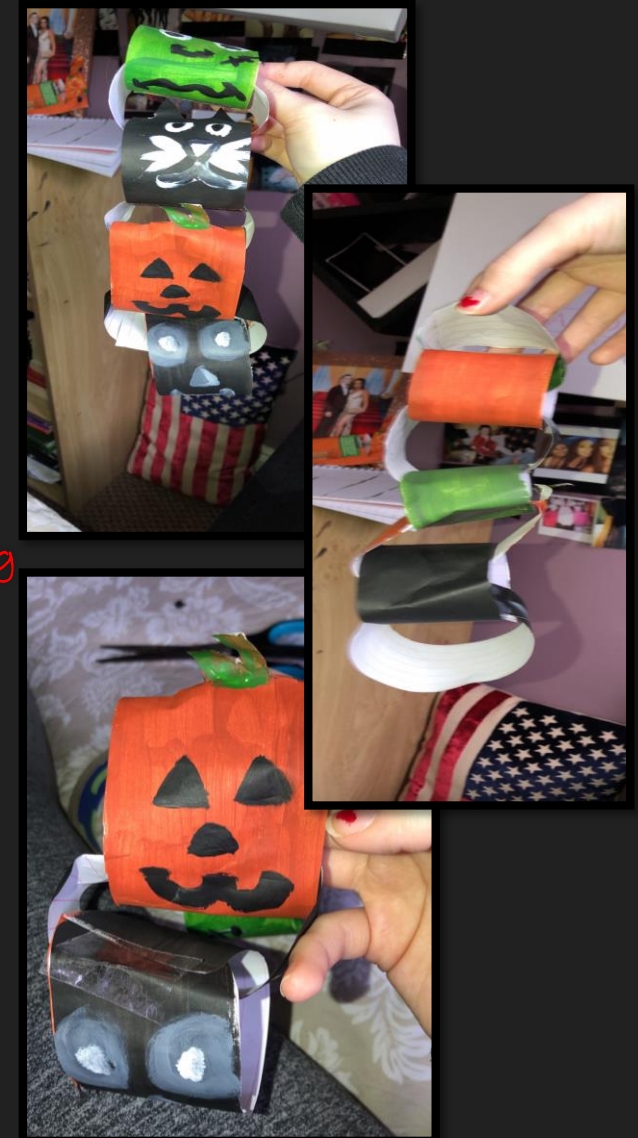
Materials needed: A4 sheet of white paper, safety scissors, tape.
You can add décor such as goggle eyes or pipe cleaner.

How?

- Start by getting one sheet of A4 paper and turn in a canvas format
- Then paint 7 individual lines down the sheet of paper in whatever colours you choose
- You can then draw/paint a character on each individual line- leaving 2/3 plain coloured pieces of paper for looping
- After your master pieces have dried, you can grab your safety scissors and tape and start cutting and sticking!
- Cut each individual character and loop them around each other, then taping the two sides of the paper together.

Learning for your child:

- Creativity : creativity is one of the core aspects of this activity. Children are able to express their ideas through art, and by painting different faces onto the pieces of papers they really open up their imaginations!
- Fine motor skills : children can develop fine motor skills by working with their hands, wrists and finger muscles by cutting, sticking, painting and printing. These skills are key in helping children to develop their hand muscles which will help them with their writing development in the future.



Puffy Ghosts

How?

- Encourage child to draw an outline of a ghost on cardboard or paper
- Cut out the chosen outline and spread glue across the cut-out outline
- Stick the whatever recycled material you have in the home over the outline covering it completely!
- Use a different colour and texture material create eyes and a mouth and stick down with glue, I used an apple tray!

Learning For Your Child:

- **Fine Motor Development** : Fine Motor skills are developed as your child uses their hands, wrists and finger muscles and these skills are important to enable children to perform everyday functions such as walking , running and climbing.



Paper Plate Pumpkins

Materials: Paper Plate, Paint, Paintbrush, Green Paper, Scissors, Glue-stick, Black Marker.

How?

- Paint the paper plate orange using the orange paint and let dry for a couple of minutes.
- Cut out a square from the green paper which will be a stalk for the pumpkin and stick to the top of the plate once it's dry.
- Using your black marker draw a face onto the plate and your pumpkin is finished!



Learning for Your Child:

- **Fine Motor Skills:** These skills are being developed as your child is using the smaller muscles in their hands and fingers to paint and cut. These skills are very important for the child as it will help them when writing and drawing in school.
- **Creativity:** By drawing faces onto the plates and adding the stalks your child is developing it's creativity and imagination which are very important in the early years.

Mummy Piñata

How:

- Cut up or tear up pieces of white tissue paper with your child.
- Encourage your child to glue and wrap pieces of tissues paper around a toilet paper roll, using both hands to ensure they are stuck in place. Leave a small section free in the middle of the roll so you can add a face later.
- Glue one piece of tissue paper at one end of the roll and don't forget to leave the other side open until you add the sweets inside.
- Using a marker, invite your child to draw on eyes and a mouth. Encourage your child to use lots of different facial expressions and get them to think of funny faces to draw!
- Add your sweets inside of the roll and glue another piece of tissue paper over the top of the roll and make sure it is stuck. Make a loop of ribbon and attach it to the top of the roll. This is going to be used to hang it up. Once the glue is dry, you can hang it up.
- Encourage your child to shake, squeezes, pokes and pull the mummy to open it and enjoy the sweets inside!

Learning for your Child:

- Gross motor skills – shaking, squeezing, pushing pulling the piñata!
- Fine motor skills – tearing an cutting the tissue and sticking



Cardboard Halloween Decorations

HOW?

- Cut up a cardboard box in rectangular shape or use some pieces of cardboard in any shapes or sizes from your recyclable bin!
- Encourage your child to then paint box green or whatever colour they choose – name the colours with your child
- Cut up or tear up a black bin bag to make the spooky faces for your decoration.
- Encourage your child to explore shapes and size by helping them to cut out different size triangles, circles, rectangles and squares.
- Help your child to stick them on with clear sellotape or masking tape or glue when the paint is dry
- You could also provide some drawing tools for your child to draw and colour on their decorations!

Learning for your Child

- Early Mathematical Awareness – shape, space, size, colours
- Fine motor skills (drawing, cutting, sticking)
- Gross motor skills (tearing the bag – using the big muscles in the shoulders)



Spooky Paper Rolls

Materials :Paint, toilet paper rolls, coloured paper or markers and a paint brush

How?

- Help your child to think about what they would like to make – prompt them to use their imagination and describe what spooky characters they will make!

How to make the cat:

- Fold either side of the toilet paper rolls to make spikey ears.
- Paint the paper roll all black
- Use whatever materials you have lying around to make the eyes, nose, mouth and whiskers!

Learning for your Child:

Bilateral Coordination - your child develops bilateral coordination by using both of their hands at the same time- one holding the paper roll and the other painting it.

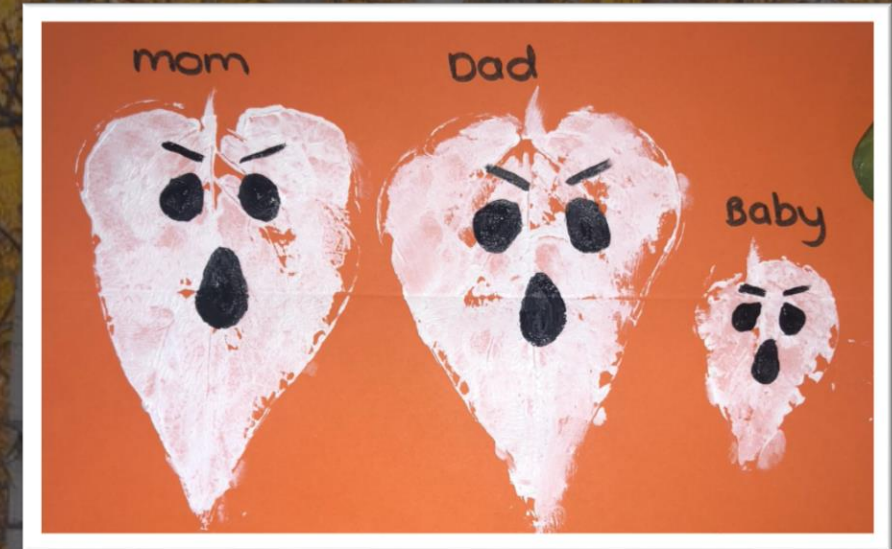
Creativity - The child is using their imagination and creativity to develop the characters they chose.



Making Leaf ghosts

How?:

- Collect a bunch of different leaves from your back garden or local park, varying in size depending on how many members are in your family. Talk to your child about the size, colours, shapes and textures of the leaves.
- Place a layer of newspaper onto a large surface where your child can work freely.
- With a paintbrush, help your child to paint the indented side of the leaf white ensuring that the leaf is fully painted.
- Push the painted side down on the coloured card and repeat with the other leaves until your family tree is complete.
- Then with some googly eyes or alternatively using black paint, give your ghost some eyes, a long mouth and some crazy eyebrows.
- Name each family member and allow to dry. (The painting could also be framed and kept as a Halloween decoration for future years).



Learning for your Child:

- **Fine motor skills** – by using the muscles in the hands and fingers to push down the painted leaf onto the paper, your child develops important fine motor skills as well as proprioceptive skills
- **Communication and language skills** – listening to and following instructions encourages language development in children which is a key pre-reading. Encourage your child to recount or recall the steps they took to complete the activity.

PUFFY GHOSTS

HOW?

1. Using a black marker, with your child draw a ghost of any shape and size on an a4 page. Talk about the shapes you are making.
2. Apply glue on the ghost – encourage your child to spread the glue evenly
3. Encourage your child to tear odd pieces of tissue paper and scrunch them up into small and medium and big balls! Talk to your child about size!
4. Stick the tissue to the glue until it is all covered. Point out any uncovered space to your child and encourage them to fill the space.

Learning for your Child:

- Early Mathematical Awareness – shape, space, size
- Fine Motor Skills
- Hand eye coordination
- Language and communication



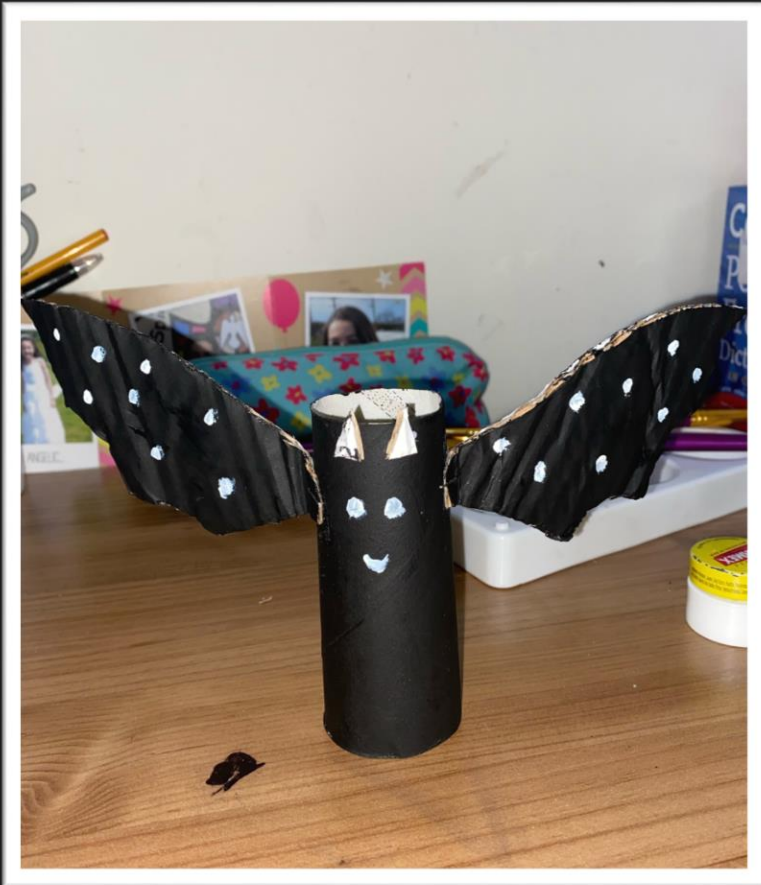
Halloween Bats

How?

- Using a recycled toilet roll, invite your child to paint it black for the main body of the bat.
- For the wings use left over cardboard from a cereal box or just a regular cardboard box. Your child can draw any shape of wing they want, encourage them to use their imagination. When they have drawn the shapes cut them out and paint them black also.
- Using the cardboard that is left over, cut out two small triangles for the bat's ears.
- When the paint has dried, stick or staple the wings to each side of the main body. Then stick the ears to the head of the bat.
- Finally you can add a face to the bat using paint, markers, crayons. If your child would like, they could design and decorate the wings on the bat to make it their own unique Halloween bat!

Learning for your child:

- Develops fine motor skills: This is important for holding a pencil for pre-writing skills.
- Develops creativity and imagination: These skills are extremely important for your child for them to be confident and independent learners.
- Develops language and communication: Important for early literacy skills.





WITCH HAT RING TOSS

MATERIALS: Scissors, Glue, Coloured paper, Tape (masking tape/sellotape), Markers

HOW 📌

STEP 1 -> Grab your coloured sheet and tape.

STEP 2 -> Make two circles one for the hat base and one for the ring. (make ring one a little bigger)

Step 3 -> Use the other half of your paper and make a cone shape.

STEP 4 -> Add some tape and connect to your small circle

Step 5 -> Draw a buckle on your hat

Step 6 -> Make as many more little hats as you like and stick them to a page

HOW TO PLAY 📌

Use the coloured rings to match the coloured hats

Say out loud what colour hat you are aiming towards!

LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD:

👉 **Language and Communication** -> By saying what colour hat they are aiming towards, your child develops their language by naming the different colours

👉 **Fine and Gross motor skills** -> By throwing the ring to the hat, your child is developing important muscles in their hands, wrist and shoulders

👉 **Concentration** -> This activity enables your child to concentrate and focus

👉 **Hand eye coordination** -> This activity develops hand eye coordination which is an important pre-writing skill for young children to develop

Spooky Spiders

How?

Materials: black paint ,cardboard or empty cereal box, tissue paper or newspaper for eyes and mouth marker to draw spider webs

- Help your child to draw spider webs using markers or any other materials you have at home, in each of the four corners of the cardboard. Talk about the shapes and lines in the webs.
- Then prompt your child to put their hand into the paint and push it down onto the cardboard to leave a handprint. Ask them how they might make it into the body of the spider? Encourage them to see how if they do it twice they can make a spiders body!
- You then using tissue paper or newspaper and crush up a piece to make eyes and mouth of spider

Learning for your Child:

Fine motor skills: Fine motor skills are developed in the hands as your child is crushing up in the piece of tissue paper



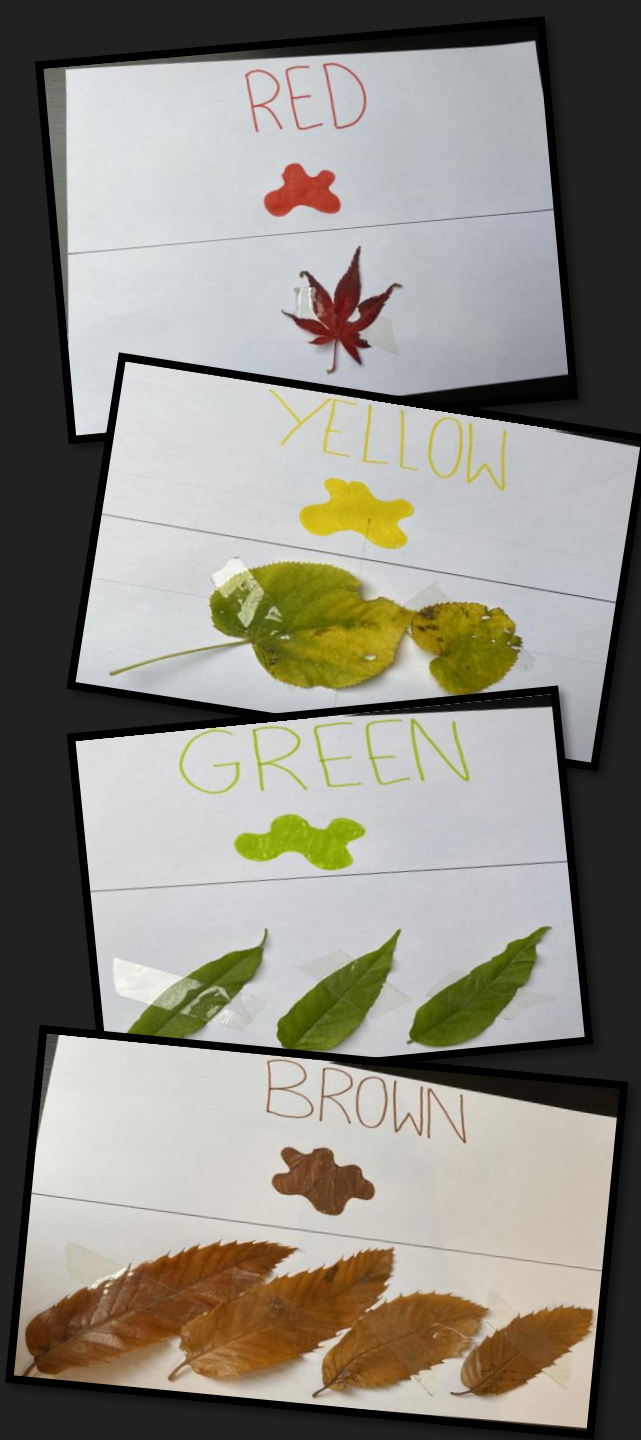
Autumn Colour Hunt

How:

1. Allow your child to pick out different recycling materials (e.g. cardboard, paper) that you will write the colours of Autumn on. As well as the word there should be a circle drawn in that colour so that the child can easily match items to it.
2. On a nature walk encourage your child to collect pieces of autumn nature in each of the autumn colours.
3. When everything is collected allow your child to sort their findings into each different colour.
4. Your child can then stick down what they found onto the colour they matched it to.

Learning for your Child:

- Gross motor skills (bending down and picking up leaves, walking, reaching), are vital for a child's physical growth and development.
- Fine motor skills (sticking everything down) which are important for pre-writing development
- Language development which is a very important a key pre-reading skill, learning new vocabulary will also help the child when they begin learning to read.
- Helps develop creativity and imagination which are positive learning dispositions for children.



Make Your Own Ghost!

What you need: sheet of coloured paper/card:

- Toilet paper
- Glue
- Marker of any colour
- Pencil

How?

- Encourage your child to draw an outline of a ghost on the page – talk about the shape of a ghost
- Encourage your child to tear up the toilet paper into small pieces
- Prompt and assist your child to spread glue all over the ghost
- Together, stick the pieces of toilet paper onto your ghost
- When finished, encourage your child draw a face onto your ghost – talk about how the ghost is feeling!
- Name your ghost!

Learning for Your Child:

Fine motor skills - help your child to improve their fine motor skills as they work their fingers and hands to draw the ghost, stick on the pieces of tissue and draw the face!

Imagination - your child will use their imagination to come up with a personality for their!



Activity: Pumpkin Piñata

Materials: Cardboard/Paint (orange, green & any other colour)/Masking tape/Scissors/string/Stick/Sweets

How?

- Cut cardboard into the shape of a pumpkin and a pumpkin stalk.
- Paint your pumpkin cut out orange and paint your stalk green.
- Get your masking tape and stick all your cardboard together to create your 3D pumpkin.
- Draw a funny face for your pumpkin and paint it any colour you want.
- Make a hole to attach your string.
- Fill with sweets, hang it up and HIT



Learning for your child :

Positive Learning Development: Sticking everything together and painting allows your child to be creative.

Fine Motor Development: Your child will use their hands/wrists/fingers to hold the stick. This is key for developing the muscles in their hands/fingers/wrists for future writing, drawing and colouring.

Cotton Bud Skeleton

How:

Materials: Cotton buds, glue, black and white paper, scissors

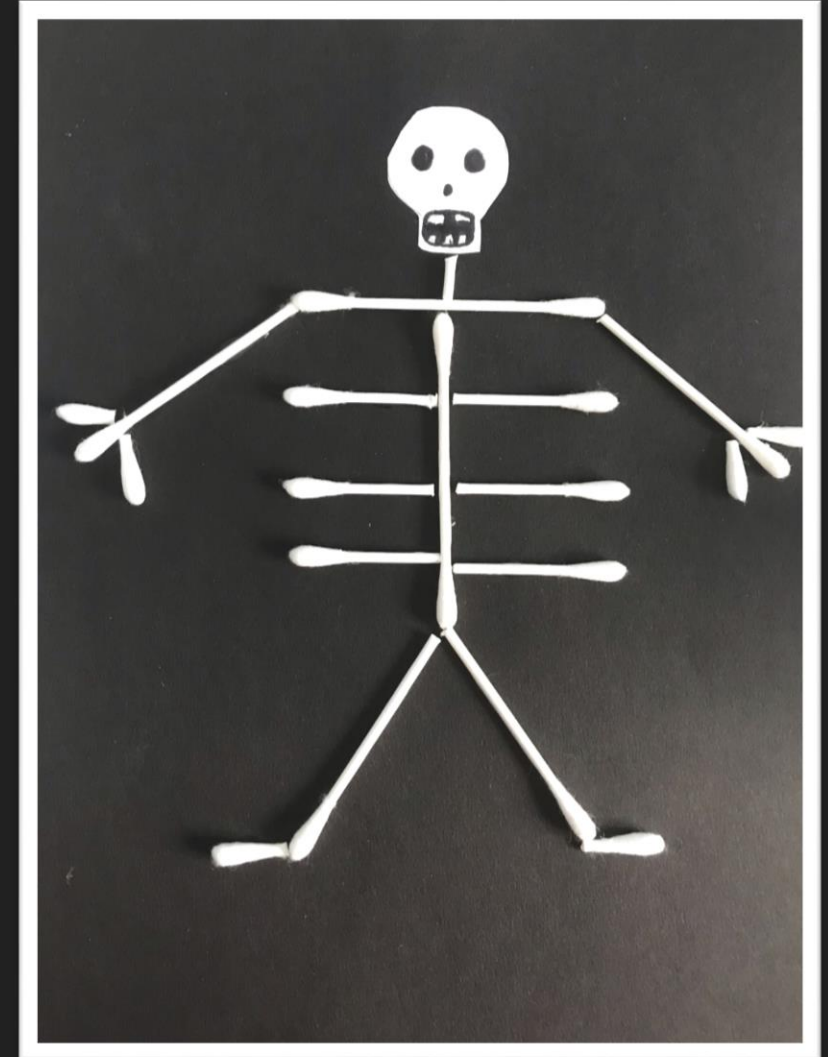
Description :

Cut and place cotton buds in the shape of a skeleton onto coloured paper. Talk to your child about the shapes and numbers of cottons buds you need.

Stick the cotton buds into place and cut out skull with the white paper and stick into place

Learning for your Child:

Fine motor skills: Fine motor skills involve the use of the small muscles that control the hand. They help children perform important tasks like feeding themselves, grasping toys, buttoning, writing, drawing, and more.



Ghost Bean Bag Toss

Materials needed: cardboard, paper, black marker, scissors, glue.

How?

- Make your ghost using old cardboard you have in the recycling bin – you might need to paint it or cover it with white paper!
- Lean the ghost against a wall
- Take few steps back
- Throw the ball/bean bag into the ghosts mouth
- Count how many you get into the ghost mouth

Learning for your Child

Gross Motor Skills are important to enable children to perform every day tasks such as walking, running, throwing and climbing. However these are crucial for everyday care needs like dressing yourself or getting into bed.



Toilet Roll Ghost

Materials:

White and black paper, toilet roll, glue, scissors. Paint brush.

How?

- 1) Cut the white piece of paper into a ghost shape
- 2) Put the glue onto the ghost using a paint brush and add the toilet roll
- 3) Cut out any shape face you would like from the black piece of paper and stick it onto the ghost
- 4) Cut a long thin piece of paper to stick to the back of the ghost so you are able to hang it anywhere you'd like!

Learning for your child

- Imagination and creativity
- Fine motor skills from ripping up toilet roll and sticking things together
- Independence
- Hand eye coordination



Friendly Monsters

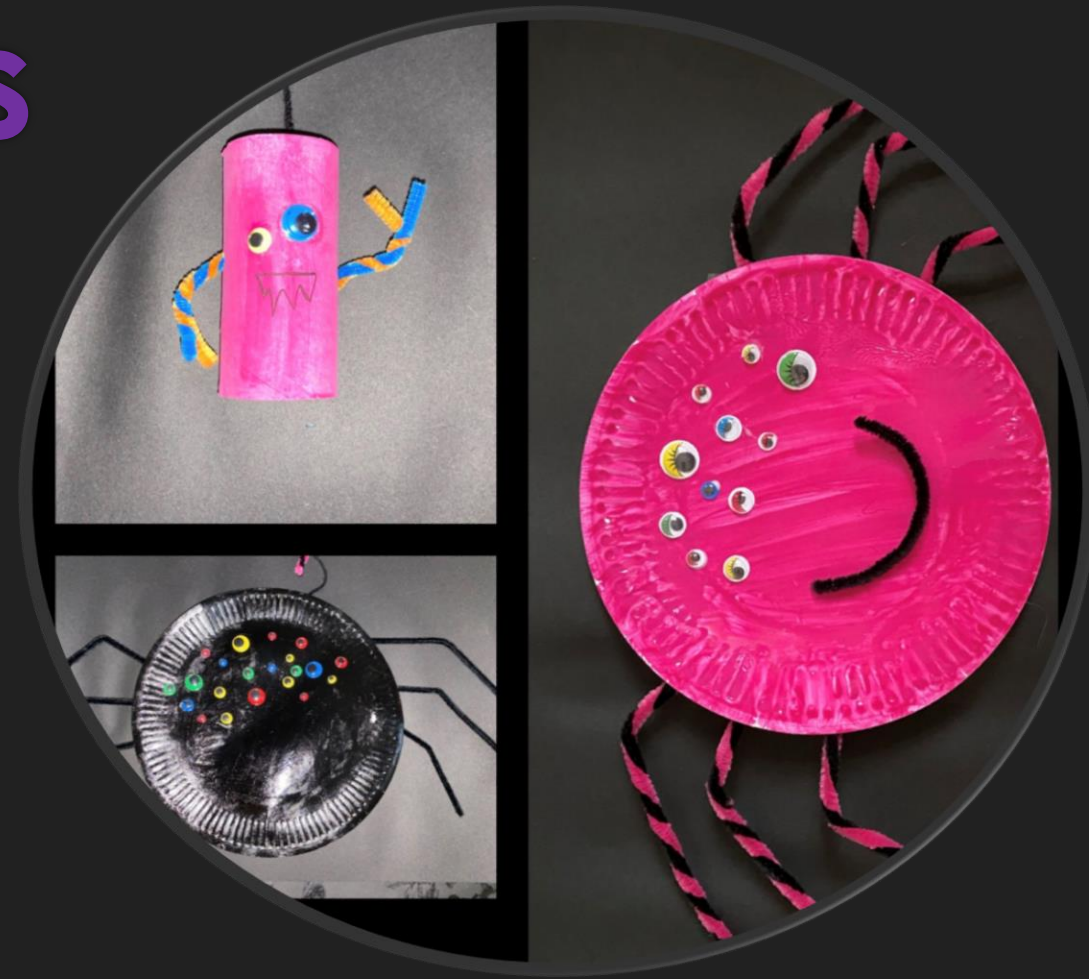
How?

Materials needed: paper plates, glue, googly eyes, paint (any colour) & pipe cleaners

- Pour paint onto the paper plate and spread with a brush
- Wait until dry
- Use your pipe cleaners to make arms and legs (talk about number to your child!)
- Use your glue to stick on the eyes, arms and legs and give your monster a name!

Learning for your child:

- Fine motor skills are developed as your child is using their hands, wrist and finger muscles to paint
- Painting promotes your child's hand-eye coordination
- Your child will also practice creativity, independence, and problem solving which are important learning dispositions that will help your child grow in physical, social, cognitive and emotional development



Eyeball Dig

How?

Materials: Cooked spaghetti, masking tape, scissors, black pen, blindfold, bowl.

- Put the spaghetti in the bowl.
- Using the scissors, cut the masking tape and wrap it in a ball shape.
- Draw black dots on the tape to make 'eyeballs'
- Make as many 'eyeballs' as you want!
- Mix the eyeballs into the spaghetti.
- Blindfold the child, see how many eyeballs they can find in 30 seconds.

Learning for your child:

- Fine motor development - The child is using their hands, wrists and finger muscles to try and find the objects. this skill is essential for pre-writing skills.
- Curiosity- As the child is blindfolded, they are curious to see what they can find and will be determined to succeed. This promotes self-motivation and independence.



Halloween toilet roll art

How to:

- Encourage your child to go around the houses and find finished toilet rolls, different coloured paper, markers , googly eyes and other materials you can use around your house the create these scary monster.
- Start by gluing the paper on to the toilet rolls or colouring them in.
- Add the googly eyes on and draw on the faces onto the toilet rolls.
- Add paper or colour on the hair of the monsters.
- Add paper wings or teeth by using paper.
- Design your monsters in what ever way you want !!!
- BE CREATIVE !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Learning for your child:

- This activity develops positive learning dispositions which include creativity and imagination.
- Fine motor skills are developed by practicing cutting and sticking skills.



Finger Paint Autumn Tree

Materials needed: white A4 sheet of paper, a cup of water, paint, pen/pencil and a paper towel to wipe hands.

How?

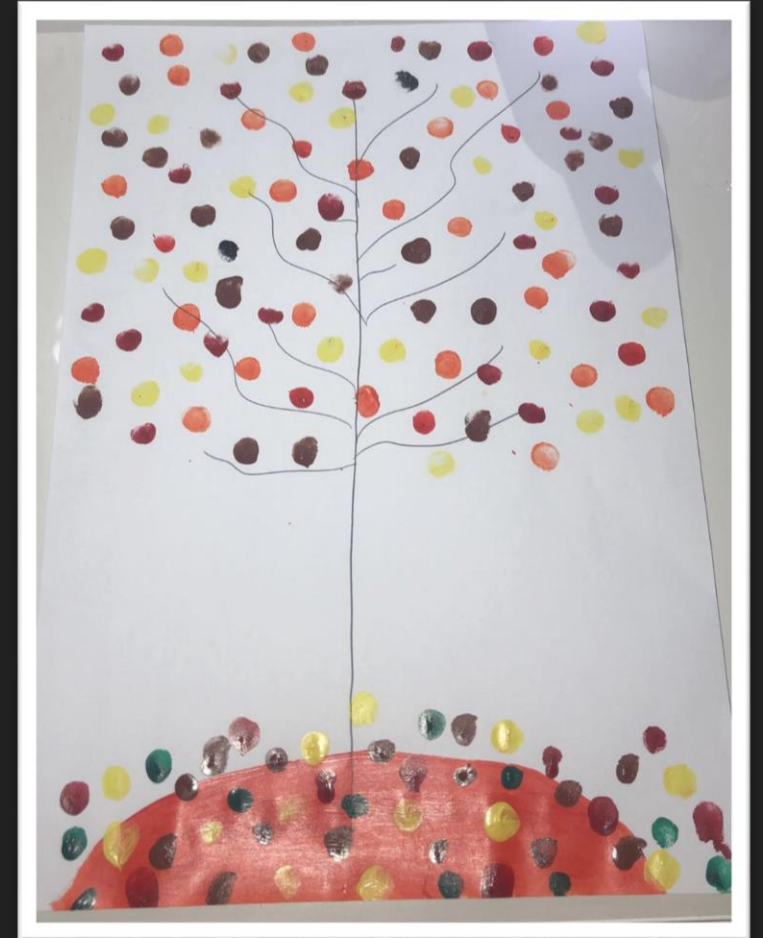
Encourage and help your child to draw the stem and branches of the tree with a pen/pencil/brown paint. Talk about the shape of the branches and the tree. Talk about the lines – are they straight lines? How long are they?

Help your child to tip their fingers into the paint and then press firmly onto the branches of the tree to make prints for the leaves. Talk about the colours used and the colours we see in Autumn.

Learning for your Child:

Fine motor skills: Your child will practice using their smaller muscles like muscles in their hands, fingers and wrists.

Imagination/ Creativity: Your child will develop positive learning dispositions as they are encouraged to be creative and to use their imagination. Encourage your child to create their own, unique piece of artwork.



Leaf Haircuts!

How:

- Gather some autumn leaves with your child. Encourage your child to explore the texture of the leaves and talk about the colours.
- Using a safety scissors, encourage your child to cut and snip and shape the leaves to give them "haircut"! Encourage your child to think of different shapes and styles that can be cut (spikey, straight etc!).
- Use paint or other materials that you might have at home to create a "leaf person". Encourage your child to use their imagination and to be creative! Create a personality for your leaf person!

Learning for your Child:

- Fine motor skills and gross motor skills are developed which are important for daily task completion!
- The ability to concentrate and sustain attention is crucially important because it helps your child to learn and succeed, which leads to self-confidence and positive self-esteem.

