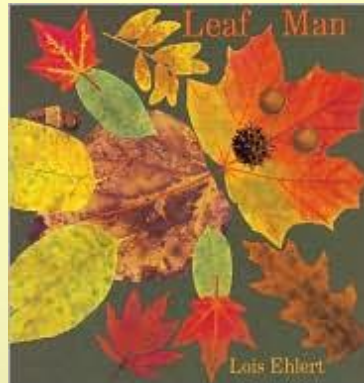


Leaf Man

by Lois Ehlert

An adapted program for children ages 4-8

Presented By
Leslie Gonzalez



MLIS 7422 Programming for Children and Young Teens
Valdosta State University

Dr. Anita Ondrusek
November 19, 2009

Program Overview

- Target audience is Pre-K through primary aged children (4-8).
- Program length is 30-45 minutes.
- Program Components:
 - Opening discussion of seasons, fall holidays, and leaves
 - Storytelling: adapted from *Leaf Man* by Lois Ehlert
 - Leaf craft



Program Location

- Barnett Shoals Elementary School (Athens GA)
- Mr. Duncan's and Mrs. Bosquet's Pre-K classroom
- Satisfied Pre-K storytime, craft, and guest speaker requirements
- Used the classroom storytime rug with assigned squares
- Used the classroom tables for the craft activity



Program Opening

- I gathered the children to the story rug and took a few minutes to ask them their names and introduce myself.
- We all talked and shared our ideas about the seasons, fall holidays, and leaves.
- I brought in a few leaves to show the children to compare and contrast and let them pass them around.



Time to Tell a Wonderful Story About a Friend of Mine...

Have any of you met Leaf
Man, yet?

Leaf Man used to live
near me, in a pile of
leaves.

But yesterday the wind
blew Leaf Man away. He
left no travel plans.



The last time I saw him he was headed east - past the chickens, (What do chickens say?) toward the marsh, over the ducks and geese. (Tell me, what sound do ducks make?)

(Now, this is where you can help me tell the story. When I say, "Where will the Leaf Man go?" You say, "WHERE THE WIND BLOWS!")

Where will the Leaf Man go?
WHERE THE WIND BLOWS!



He blew over the fields of
pumpkins and winter squash.

(yummy)

Where will the Leaf Man go?
WHERE THE WIND BLOWS



He flew over the turkey,
past the potatoes, carrots,
and cabbage in rows. *(What does
a turkey say?)*



Then he blew out of sight.

Where will the Leaf Man go?
WHERE THE WIND BLOWS



Is he drifting west, above
the orchards or over the
prairie meadows and past the
spotted cows? (Moo.)

Where will the Leaf Man go?
WHERE THE WIND BLOWS!



Maybe Leaf Man's gliding on
a lake breeze, or flying
along the river, (*where the
fishies and turtles live*)



following butterflies going
south.

(*What sound do you think butterfly
wings make while they're flying?*)

Where will the Leaf Man go?
WHERE THE WIND BLOWS!



He might even be traveling north, above leaves that look like him, or flying over mountains, with a flock of birds. *(Tell me, what sounds do birds make?)*

Where will the Leaf Man go?
WHERE THE WIND BLOWS!



When a leaf man looks
down on earth, is he
lonesome for home?
(I don't know. Do you know?)

This I do know: Where a
Leaf Man will land, only
the wind knows.

So, listen for a rustle in
the leaves and maybe you'll
find a Leaf Man waiting to
go home with you!



Craft Time!

- When the story was finished, we reviewed all the animals in the story and the children had a chance to look at them closely.
- I briefly modeled how to make simple faces and fish out of leaves.
- Each child was given a leaf kit - leaves, google eyes, construction paper -- and began creating!



Creative Kids!

- The children were allowed to free-form their leaf creations and use their imaginations.
- All the children were focused and many wanted more leaves and google eyes.



Pre-K Creations!

- The children made a variety of monsters, deer faces, fish in the ocean, and animal faces.
- We wrapped it up with a show-and-tell of the leaf creations.
- Their art will be displayed in the class.
- The children get excited when they see me in the school now.





Observations

- Leaf hunting with my daughter and her friends and then making the leaf animals and the felt board with my family was fun and inexpensive.
- A teacher mentioned that I should have had my leaf animals laminated. I sure wish I had, but they already had velcro on them and were starting to get crispy.
- I was surprised at how well-behaved the children were and how interactive they were. I wouldn't hesitate to work with Pre-K children again.
- With a bigger group or a different setting, the craft activity might need to be more structured.



Recognitions

- Mr. Duncan's and Mrs. Bosquet's Pre-K class at Barnett Shoals Elementary School
- My family and my daughter's friends for helping me hunt leaves and create the leaf animals



Bibliography

- Ehlert, Lois. (2005). *Leaf Man*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- Cullum, Carolyn N. (2007). *The Storytime Sourcebook II*. New York: Neal-Schuman.
- My Activity Maker. (2009). *Leaf Man Story & Craft*. Retrieved November 8, 2009 from <http://www.myactivitymaker.com/?q=FallLeafMan>.