



Fletcher and the Falling Leaves

By Julia Rawlinson

Fletcher worries about his favorite tree losing all its leaves in the fall.

READ

Before: Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, what do you think this story is about? Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

I wonder what Fletcher is doing with those leaves?

During: Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out “rare words” (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words

- bounded - walked or ran with leaping strides
- ruffled - mess up someone’s hair
- rustle - make a soft crackling sound
- snuffled - breathed noisily

After: Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What is wrong with Fletcher’s favorite tree?
- How does Fletcher try to help the tree?
- What is causing the leaves to fall off the tree?
- What animals take the leaves? What do they use them for?
- What animals help Fletcher take care of his tree?
- How does Fletcher feel when his favorite tree loses its final leaf?
- What does Fletcher do with the final leaf?
- What does the tree look like the next morning?
- What season is it now?



DO

Tree Finger Painting

Materials:

- construction paper
- brown markers
- red, yellow orange and brown paint

Using a brown marker, draw a tree trunk on a piece of construction paper. Let your students use their fingers or paintbrushes to paint fall leaves on the tree. Make sure they paint some of the leaves falling from the tree!