

Outdoor Learning Experience (4 to 6 years old)

<p>Learning Experience: Leafy Fireworks</p>	<p>Shared by: Miriam Lee, Lim Tong Hai</p>
<p>Environment: Open grass area, under a tree with lots of fallen leaves.</p>	<p>Estimated time: 20 minutes</p>
<p>Children's prior knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are able to display basic coordination in jumping for height. 	
<p>What children will experience (NEL Learning Areas):</p> <p>Motor Skills Development (Gross Motor Skills):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will learn to jump up for height with control and land safely with two feet. <p>Discovery of the World:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will touch and feel the texture of the leaves by stroking and crunching the leaves with their hands. <p>Numeracy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will count the number of leaves they collect. 	<p>Suitable for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 to 6 years old
<p>What you will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An area with a lot of dried, fallen leaves. • If the surrounding area has no leaves, material from the classroom such as crushed newspaper, rolled up socks, soft towels or handkerchiefs may be used instead. In this case, the activity could be carried out on a canvas mat in an open grass area or in an area with concrete flooring (e.g., under the void deck) 	<p>Benefit-Risk Assessment:</p> <p><u>Benefit:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will learn to jump in a coordinated manner in the context of a natural environment. <p><u>Risk:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves from a poisonous tree • Insects/Ants nest • Uneven ground/pot holes under the pile of leaves <p><u>Management:</u></p>

- Prior to activity, identify the tree which the leaves have fallen from to ensure it is not poisonous or harmful to the children.
- Recce the site prior to the activity to ensure the area has no insects or ants' nest under the leaves; Children could wear long pants to minimise any risk of insect/ant bites.
- Prior to activity, comb through the area to identify spots with uneven ground/pots hole that may lead to falls. Highlight these spots to the children at the start of the activity and get them to stay away from those areas. For pot holes, use a cone or get an adult to stand in those areas to minimise risk of falls/injury.

How to make it happen:

1. Have children to pick up leaves and get them to touch and feel the texture of the leaves/ different type of leaves by stroking and crunching the leaves with their hands.
2. Next, get them to collect ten leaves (teacher can specify any number of leaves or include an addition/subtraction challenge depending on prior knowledge of children).
3. Get the children to imagine that the leaves will become "fireworks" once it is released into the air.
4. Then, at the command "Fireworks!", the children are to bend their knees, swing their arms, jump up high and throw the leaves up to the sky as their arms swing up, making it look like "Fireworks"
5. Key verbal cues:
 - "Bend Knees"
 - "Swing Arms"
 - "Take off" (with two feet) and "Throw leaves to the sky"
 - "Soft landing with bent knees" (with two feet)