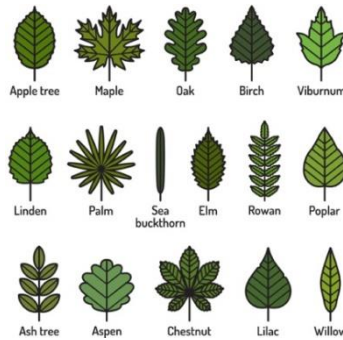


CREATIVE IDEAS FOR DEVELOPING DANCE

EYFS: LEAVES



This dance session could follow a walk. Collect some leaves to use during the lesson. Ask the children to look at the leaves and describe what they can see. Try copying the shapes of the leaves. Model with leaves of contrasting shapes.

Let the children describe and then show you what happens to the leaves when they fall from the trees.

Can you make your body flutter and float slowly to the ground?

Put some leaves on the floor and blow them like the wind. Can you move like that? Move across the space lifting up and down with small, quick, light actions.

What happens to leaves when they are on the ground for a long time? Practice crumpled leaf shapes.

KS1 RAINFOREST

- Tall trees:** make thin, tall shapes, swaying in the wind
- Thick undergrowth:** roll arms to push away the bushes
- Rainfall:** wave both hands from high to low moving fingers



The children can make their own rainforest phrase.

Explorer: make a still shape, look side to side, point.
All the children can be explorers, or you could use some as explorers who conduct the animals' performances (see below) by pointing at each group to start.

Rainforest animals

- Birds:** balance, move wings up and down, fly around the room move up and down.
- Monkeys;** crawl, gallop, swing, jump
- Snakes:** curl, slide , slither, hover

Children can choose their own animal. Put all the same animals in a specific part of the room so that the children can perform in a canon. This means that the children can watch the other groups perform.

CREATIVE LINKS TO THE EYFS HOLISTIC CURRICULUM

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD:

Collect leaves and encourage children to study them closely with magnifiers.



LITERACY:

Read 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson, to develop understanding and anticipation of rhymes

EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN:

Make 'Stick Man' stick puppets with rolled corrugated card and add limbs. Turn the role play corner into the interior of Stick Man's tree house with brown paper walls and other features from book illustrations.

Make leaf prints on large sheets of paper to form a background to display related work.

Try leaf rubbings with wax crayons on thin paper and practise cutting skills. Isolate each leaf and stick on to a corrugated cardboard 'trunk' and its 'branches' for an impressive indoor tree.

CREATIVE LINKS TO THE KS1 CURRICULUM

MATHEMATICS

Find the line of symmetry on each leaf? Are any leaves asymmetric?

ART AND DESIGN



Draw and design leaves on paper then transfer the designs onto Press-Print polystyrene tiles using a sharp pencil or ball-point pen. Apply thick-ish paint with small rollers and make prints, pressing firmly on to the paper. Washed tiles can be re-used with different colours.

LITERACY

Read the poem 'Trees' by Harry Behn and use the ideas to springboard children's own creative writing using rhyme. Provide a 'starter' rhyme bank: high/sky; leaf/beneath; ground/found etc.

PSHE

Talk about the destruction of rainforests and animal species threatened by the diminishing environment.