

# Pediatric Development Center



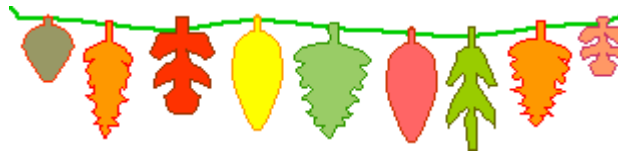
~ Newsletter ~  
October  
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We provide occupational therapy evaluation, treatment and consultation for children with developmental delays, autism/Asperger, cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome, sensory processing disorders, attention, behavioral concerns, handwriting, and other areas of weakness. Contact us for further information:

125 Presumpscot St.  
Portland, ME.  
(207) 699-5531

As the days get shorter and cooler, craft projects are always a good way to have some therapeutic fun!

## String of Leaves



Materials:

- Construction paper (orange, red, yellow, brown, and other earth tones)
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors
- Glue, tape, or staples
- A long piece of green or brown yarn or string

Instructions:

- 1) Draw a leaf on a piece of construction paper. Make sure to draw a thick stem on the top (your leaf will hang from this stem, which will be folded over).
- 2) Cut out the leaf. Draw the leaf veins if you wish.
- 3) Fold the leaf's stem in half.
- 4) Attach the leaf to a long string using tape, glue, or staples. Make more leaves

and attach them to the string.

## Glue Ghosts

Lay a length of thick string or yarn in the shape of a basic ghost on a piece of waxed paper, leaving the bottom open. Carefully fill the area inside the string with glue and then smooth the glue with a craft stick or the back of a plastic spoon. Add googly eyes and a construction paper mouth. Let the glue dry overnight. Remove the ghost from the waxed paper and trim any excess glue from the outline. Use a pushpin to poke a hole at the top and thread through a string for hanging.



## Good Resources:

[www.enchantedlearning.com](http://www.enchantedlearning.com)

[www.preschoolrainbow.org](http://www.preschoolrainbow.org)

<http://fun.familyeducation.com>

## Leaf Hunting Nature Walks

Take your child on a nature hike and collect as many leaves, acorns, pinecones, rocks, etc. as they can.

Take the time to talk about nature, listen to the noises and check out any animals that might be around.

Use the items you collected to create masterpieces.

Give your child some helpful hints and see where their imagination will take them.

## Easy Pumpkin Pudding

Materials and Ingredients:

1 cup vanilla pudding for each child  
2 tsp. Libby's easy pumpkin pie mix per child  
A bowl for each child  
A spoon for each child

Description: Help young children measure and place one cup of vanilla pudding in their individual bowls. Measure out 2 tsp. pie mix with each child. Ask children to mix the vanilla pudding and the pie mix together for a seasonal and yummy treat.



## Fall Feely Box

Learning different textures and identifying them is fun for young preschool and kindergarten children.

Materials:

Leaves, acorns, pine cones, nuts, apples, etc. A box, such as a shoe box, that is large enough for a child to fit their hand inside without seeing what is inside the box. Cut a hole in the top of the box so each child can take a turn feeling inside the box and guessing what is inside.

## Fingerprint Tree

Stamp the side of your hand in brown paint to create the trunk of a tree. Press your fingertips in different colored paint (red, orange, yellow, green) to create the leaves of a fall tree. Challenge your child to create a pile of leaves and children playing in them, using nothing but fingerprints and a felt tip pen for details.

## Handprint Leaves

Draw a large trunk and have your child make handprint leaves to decorate. They can use finger paint to put leaves on, or trace their hand and cut them out to paste them to the tree trunk.

Materials:

- 1 apple
- Knife
- Paper towel
- Tempera paint
- Shallow pie tin
- Light-colored construction paper

Instructions:

1. Cut the apple in half crosswise. Dry off the inside with a paper towel.
2. Pour a small amount of paint into the pie tin.
3. Show your child how to grasp the apple to dip it into the paint. Have him press the painted apple on the paper to create a print. The effect will look a little like a star.

