

# EEP Family connect

It's Fall! Let's Take A Walk!  
Late October, early November, 2016



Halloween is nearly here. The wind is blowing harder, the leaves are flying, and oh, the rain is coming a bit more often now. Fall is truly here! Every little peak out the window shows how very beautiful our trees here are. So many colors! And aren't we all hoping those beautiful orange, yellow and red leaves last just a bit longer! While it may feel like it's time to "batten the hatches" or stay home and make soup, it's also a great time, before all those leaves are gone, to don coats/raincoats as needed, and boots and umbrellas if necessary and run through the leaves a bit. It seems so hard to take the first step to get out there in it, but once you do, you'll be so glad you did!

Enjoy *connecting* together...



## Talk with me!

Here are some words I am learning over the next week. If you happen to see any of these in books, or in stores or when we're out and about, point them out to me! Remember, even though I might be younger, I can still learn the other words too!

### Developmentally Younger

- 🍁 Tree
- 🍁 Leaf/leaves
- 🍁 No leaves
- 🍁 Gone
- 🍁 Boots
- 🍁 Puddle
- 🍁 Sunny, raining, windy (when outside)
- 🍁 Cold (outside & other cold things)
- 🍁 Coat (need one outside!)
- 🍁 Wet (feel this, it's wet)
- 🍁 Noisy (while crunching in leaves/hear a blower)
- 🍁 Falling down (the leaves are)

🍁 Throwing (leaves, ball)

🍁 Taking a walk

### Developmentally Older

- 🍁 Fall (the season, especially how trees change)
- 🍁 Raincoat
- 🍁 Squirrel
- 🍁 Pinecone
- 🍁 Nut (acorn)
- 🍁 Trunk (tree)
- 🍁 Branch/branches
- 🍁 Weather
- 🍁 Clouds, rain, the sun
- 🍁 Rainy, sunny, windy, cloudy
- 🍁 Umbrella

🍁 Raking (the leaves), jumping (in the leaves), throwing (the leaves), buried (in leaves)

🍁 Playing football/soccer

🍁 Cheering

🍁 The Ducks!



🍁 Picking apples

🍁 Making an apple pie

🍁 Brown, orange, black

🍁 Letter: W

🍁 Numerals 4 & 2

🍁 Scared (for Halloween!)

🍁 Excited



## Read with me!

Books are a wonderful way for me to learn. I can look at the pictures with you and you can show me things on the pages. Sometimes the stories are too long for me to listen to but if you TELL me what's going on, I can probably listen for longer. I also will benefit from hearing the words over and over and over... Here are some of the books we'll be reading:

### *Clifford's First Autumn*

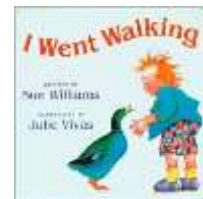
By Norman Bridwell



(We love Clifford! *Baby Clifford's First Autumn* is filled with, go figure, fall vocabulary and lots of fun. Clifford even scores a touchdown!! A favorite!)

### *I Went Walking*

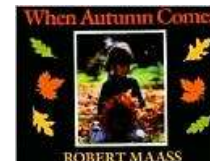
By Sue Williams



(Though not about fall, it is about walking and seeing lots of animals. It has a fun focus on animals and colors.)

### *When Autumn Comes*

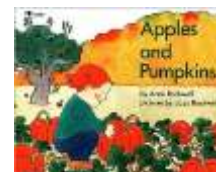
By Robert Maass



(Lovely photographs about things folks do in the fall. Matches much of what we're talking about in the classroom. It's long so let your little one go at his/her pace.)

### *Apples and Pumpkins*

By Anne Rockwell



(It's great AFTER that trip to the pumpkin patch. It was on our Halloween list last theme. It tells the story of fall, fun on the farm...from apple and pumpkin picking to the making of the pie with Grandma and trick or treating. Very sweet!)



## Play with me!

When you play with me, I love it. When I get your full attention, I feel really special. We can build something, go somewhere, make something or just play around with the toys I have. No matter what, I'll be learning about all kinds of things. Remember, just being with YOU makes it really fun. Let's play!

- ✿ I love a fall walk even in the rain. In fact, sometimes it's more fun in the rain! Let's wear our boots and stomp in the puddles. Let's take our umbrellas. I love to make the umbrella open and close with your help. If you don't want to go outdoors because it's too rainy, we could use water bottles to spray and pretend it was raining in our living room (or bathtub)!
- ✿ If we go out for a walk, let's take a bag. We could collect things on our walk. You could help me learn the names of things. At school we picked up pinecones, acorns and leaves. We saw a squirrel and lots of puddles. I'd love to take a walk and collect things in our neighborhood, with you!
- ✿ I like when you tell me about the things I look at when we are outside. I love when you say, "There's the STOP sign. I have to stop the car here. It says STOP!" I like when you point to the street signs, too. I might even learn the name of my street that way. You could write where we live when we go inside. I might even learn that where I live is called my ADDRESS!
- ✿ The leaves are falling outside now. If I had a little rake, I would love to help you rake them. If I had a wheelbarrow, I could put the leaves in there. If it was my size, I might even help dump them with you. I love to help!
- ✿ They have leaves that are made out of cloth at the Dollar Store my teacher said. I love taping things. Maybe I could tape some leaves to a tree you cut out of paper or just my bedroom wall. I might need help with the tape though, especially at first. It is so fun to tape things. I would like to do it again and again. I know I might need to use lots of tape. Doing things again and again feels good and helps me learn!
- ✿ It is so much fun to jump in the leaves. Can we jump in a big pile of leaves together? We read a book about little doggy Clifford when he jumped in the leaves. It was funny. He got a little scared. But then he was excited. Clifford played football too. I'd love to catch a football with you. If I sit down, I might be able to catch a little better.



## Sing with me!

Singing little songs with me may seem silly, but it's good for me to hear the words over and over. I might even sing along with you or add a little word here or there. Try singing when you hold me, or when I'm in the tub at night or how about in the car when we're going places? Here are some of the songs/chants we'll be singing:

### “Shake Shake the Apple Tree”

From Kindermusik)

(Cut out paper apples of different colors or real ones that are green, yellow and red!)

Shake shake the apple tree (pretend to shake it)  
Apples \_\_\_\_\_ (you/child pick the color) and juicy.  
Shake shake the apple tree, (pretend to shake it)  
Apples \_\_\_\_\_ (repeat the chosen color) and juicy.  
One for you (hold out the apples of that color as if offering it),  
One for me (hold it to your chest),  
Shake. Shake the apple tree (pretend to shake it),  
Apples \_\_\_\_\_ (repeat the chosen color) and juicy.  
Repeat with additional colors.

### “Five Leaves”

(No tune. For beginning subtraction. Use real leaves!)

Five little leaves so bright and gay,  
We're dancing about on a tree one day.  
The wind came blowing through the town,  
And one little leaf came tumbling down.  
(Ask, “How many left” and count them!)  
(Continue with 4 leaves, then 3, 2, 1)

### “If You're Excited and You Know It”

(Tune: “If You're Happy and You Know It”)

Possible Verses:

--If you're excited and you know it, “Jump around!”  
--If you're excited and you know it, “Do a dance!”  
--If you're excited and you know it shout, “Hooray!”

### Falling Leaves

(Tune: London Bridges)

All the leaves are falling down (flutter fingers downward)  
Orange, green, red and brown (sign for each color)  
If you listen, you'll hear them say, (cup hands around ears)  
“Wintertime is on its way.” (whispering)





## Pull me close...

I'm little but I have lots of feelings. Sometimes I cry because I'm tired and I don't even know why. Sometimes I laugh and feel giggly and it's good to hear you laugh and tell me you feel happy too. But sometimes when I'm mad I need you to help me know what that's called. Pull me close and tell me. There might even be times when you're mad about something I've done. Noticing that and telling me how you feel helps me to understand that we ALL have feelings and that all feelings are okay.

- 🍁 There is a lot to be excited about right now. There're yummy sweet things that are a special treat, and fun things to do like falling in the leaves and there's dressing up, too. I get so happy that I feel all jumpy inside. Even my body is jumpy. I forget what that's called. Help me know that feeling is called, "excited."
- 🍁 If you are watching a football game and are very happy and jumping around, I bet you're excited. If you're excited, tell me, too! I like to know that we feel the same way sometimes.
- 🍁 I'm excited sometimes. And sometimes I'm happy or sad or scared. Grandma is excited sometimes too and sometimes happy or sad. My bed is NOT excited. The table is NOT either. That's so silly!
- 🍁 Sometimes, I get so excited that I don't think about what's okay and not okay. I might talk too loud or run in the house. I might even grab something when I should ask first. I am just learning to "regulate" my body! Help me learn by saying, "You are *so* excited. It's okay to be excited, just remember...ask first before you take a cookie. Say, may I have a cookie now?"
- 🍁 Our teacher said that Cookie Monster is on YouTube. I think she said it was at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PnbKL3wuH4>. Cookie Monster is VERY excited because he has cookies in front of him. He loves cookies! But he is waiting to eat them which is VERY hard to do. Maybe we could watch the Cookie Monster video together! Maybe we could eat a cookie after it is over! That would be fun and yummy!