

# Nature's School - In Autumn

Simple mini activities designed to help young people appreciate and protect the natural environment.

Spider webs are beautiful pieces of natural art. Find one, examine it, and try to weave your own.	Lanterns are used to bring light as the days get shorter. Make your own using recycled materials.	Put on your coat and wellies to go jumping around in muddy puddles, and measure the rainfall	Create a kit or parachute from natural materials - head outside to see how well it flies, or floats, on a windy day.	Have you ever grown a tree from a seed? Find a pine cone, conker, or sycamore helicopter and have a go.
Many creatures are more active in the evening. Head out for a night-time safari.	The game of conkers was invented in England in 1848. Find some conkers and have a go!	Create a windmill or weather vane using recycled or natural materials and find out which direction the wind is blowing.	Create a plie of leaves to run, jump, and lay in. Why not make a leaf angel.	The soft ground is perfect for spotting animal prints. Have a go at following some to see where they lead. Can you work out who made them?
Go out on a seed hunt and see how many different seeds you can find. Talk about what creatures might be eating them for dinner.	There is so much you can do with mud! Create a sculpture, make a mud painting, or have fun with some target practice.	Did you know that snails make great racers? Go on a snail search and hold your own race.	Trees are important to us. Create a tree guardian on your favourite tree.	Have a go at a traditional harvest craft by making a doll from either straw or corn.
Play tree I Spy - use the leaves to identify trees in your local area. Can you catch a falling leaf?	Rain falls in a lot of interesting ways. Play with this by creating a rain orchestra or waterfall.	Spend a night watching the stars. Maybe sleep out in a tent, den, or shelter. Or head out on a wild night walk.	Warm up by the campfire with a hot chocolate and marshmallows or bake damper bread and eat it the warn juice.	Frogs start to lay their spawn at the end of autumn. Head to a nearby pond and watch as they transform.

## Pumpkin Challenge

Pumpkins are ready to harvest and many look forward to decorating a pumpkin. Carve or paint a pumpkin to create a unique design.	Go on a pumpkin trail in your area and see how many you can spot on doorsteps or in windows.	Pumpkins are food! Have a go at making something from the leftover pumpkin insides. Make a soup, pie, or even a cake.	A pumpkin can contain 800 seeds! Save these and have a go at planting your own pumpkins.	Finished with your pumpkin? It can still be put to use. Add it to a compost bin
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