

# September's playful learning Checklist

- 1.** Walk around your neighborhood and help your child collect leaves from several different trees. When you return home, talk about what is the same about the leaves and what is different. Be sure to use descriptive words including crunchy, green, etc. so that your child can add to her vocabulary of Fall-themed words.
- 2.** Read the book "Leaf Man" by Lois Ehlert. Then help your child arrange and glue dried leaves to a blank piece of paper to create her own leaf man.
- 3.** Give your child a ball of play dough and help her shape it into different alphabet letters. For an added challenge, help her shape a short word like {red}.
- 4.** Hand your child several one dollar bills and take her to the store. Show her a price tag. Point out that the number after the dollar sign and before the decimal point is the number of dollars she would need to pay if she wants the item sitting above it. Invite her to wander around with you looking at the price of different things she'd like to purchase. Does she have enough money or does she need more? Allow her to buy one object she can afford.
- 5.** Help your child learn shapes by drawing a simple outline on a piece of paper. Invite her to add details and turn the shape into something. For example, she could turn a rectangle into a house, a bus or a lunchbox. Draw another shape and continue the activity.
- 6.** After reading a story out loud to your child, ask whether or not she would recommend it to a friend. Why or why not?
- 7.** Gather a pile of common household objects of various shapes {a circular frozen waffle, a square book, a rectangular baby blanket..} Invite your child to sort them into groups, making sure to name the shape each time.
- 8.** Learn about temperature. Give your child a bowl of warm water. What does it feel like? Name a few things that are warm {dinner, etc.} Then give her an ice cube. How would she describe it? What happens when she places the ice cube in the warm water? If she leaves an ice cube out on the counter, how long does it take to melt?
- 9.** Practice making patterns with Legos. Give your child several simple patterns {red-red-blue, red-yellow-green} and have her add the next blocks in the sequence. Then invite her to make up a pattern for you to finish.
- 10.** Since many apples are harvested in the fall, pick up several different types of apples during your next shopping trip. Give your child a slice of each kind {Granny Smith, Fuji, etc.} and ask her to place them in order from most to least favorite.