



## Activity ideas to support Learning at Home 2-5 year olds

### Early Years Service, Children's Services

#### Buckinghamshire Council

### AUTUMN WALK

Take a walk and collect natural resources you may find along the way. You could give your child a paper bag and count the items they find. These could include: Feathers, pinecones [Conkers](#), stones, leaves (different shapes and varieties) if you can, twigs and sticks. As you collect them, chat about the colours, sizes, shapes. *Can you add a variety of new words into your conversation as you walk and look for Autumn treasures?*



### AUTUMN CREATIVITY

#### THIS IS NOT A STICK.....

It's a wand  
It's a guitar  
It's a shovel  
It's a baton  
It's a telescope  
It's a sword  
It's a microscope  
It's a ski pole  
It's a spoon  
It's a fishing pole  
It's a treasure finder  
It's a paddle  
...And everything else a child could imagine



### MAKE A CROWN

Go on a leaf and stick/twig hunt and stick these onto a strip of card (consider recycling a cardboard box such as a cereal box), and make the shape of a crown (to go round your child's head) and have a woodland tea party!

*Need some inspiration?*

Create a [Woodland Fairy Crown](#)

Encourage a teddy / friend to attend a tea party. Wear your crowns and display your artwork. Sit in a circle and enjoy a shared lunch whilst celebrating your crowns and artwork.

### ARTWORK IN THE WOODS

Collect a large sheet/ towel / piece of paper and display all the items you have found on your walk.

Can you create a self-portrait?



Take a walk and go foraging (searching for food)—[The Woodland Trust](#) highlights local places to visit and things to do in autumn. Be careful what you pick – [foraging responsibility guide](#).

### STORY TIME

Listen [to the Stickman](#) by Julia Donaldson

*Stick Man lives in the family tree, with his Stick Lady Love and their stick children three.' Join Stick Man on an incredible adventure across the seasons as he runs from a playful dog, gets thrown in a river, escapes from a swan's nest and even ends up on top of a fire. Will he get back to his family in time for Christmas?*

Or take a trip to the local [library](#) to locate the book.

Create your own stickmen – encourage your child to explore and use their own imagination. Can you make up a story together about going on a walk in the woods and the adventures you may have? Sing the 'This is Not a Stick' rhyme and act out each suggestion.

## Top Tips

Let children create their own structures and art work and encourage them to use their own imaginations to create anything.

Encourage children to use a variety of resources and explore the difference and similarities of these natural resources.

You may have some ideas but create alongside your child chatting about what you are doing and why? This will help them with ideas but also enable them to follow their own

Creating with natural objects can be a perfect place to pretend and make believe. Helping your child to show an understanding of the world they live in.

### Chatting Matters

Vocabulary and increasing the number of new words you child hears every day is very important for future learning. *Can you add a variety of new words into your conversation as you walk and look for Autumn treasures? Use words like crunchy, smooth, hard, bronze, golden, curved, heavy, straight, seed, fruit, nut.*

## Information for Parents/ Carers



## Communication and Language 30-50 months

### You might notice that your child can:

Use simple sentences with 3-4 words to talk about what they are doing or what is happening.

Talk about what we are doing now, and what might happen later.

## Expressive Arts and Design 30-50 months

### You might notice that your child can:

Can choose the things like paper, material or ribbon that I want to use to make a picture.

Like to use lots of different things like paint, paper, wool and material to make a picture.

## Find out more about your Child's development

### [What to expect when – Developmental Guide for Parents](#)

If you have any concerns about your child's development the first thing you can do is chat to your Child's Key Person at their Nursery or Pre-school or Childminder

## Find out More

[The Woodland Trust](#)

[Small Talk - ideas for Parents](#)

[Hungry Little Minds Campaign](#)



## Physical Development 30-50 months

### You might notice that your child can:

Run, walk, jump, lift, push and move around in lots of different ways. Practice running around collecting materials to use and will demonstrate lifting, carrying, pushing and rolling things into place and perhaps some fine manipulative skills to create their artwork.