

ACTIVITY 4



Leaf Slides

Season	Spring/Summer/Autumn
Site	All that have trees
Age Group	All
No. of Children	Any

Equipment Needed: Home-made slides
(see below for instructions)



Instructions

1. Make a 'slide' for each child before you leave for the site, these are made by cutting out two identical squares of cardboard with the centres cut out, one put on top of the other and stuck together on three sides, leaving room to slide the leaf in between the two pieces.
2. Each child collects a leaf from a tree – see the 'My Tree' activity – although this can be done as a stand-alone activity.
3. Insert the leaf into the slide to make a 'Leaf Slide'
4. Sit the children in a circle. Ask them to hold their leaf slides to the light. This will reveal the inner beauty of the leaf – all the shading, colour, shape, veins, hairs etc. will be visible.
5. Allow them a few seconds to appreciate the leaf.
6. Ask them to pass their leaves clockwise. Again give a few seconds to appreciate the leaf they are viewing. Ask them to consider similarities and differences between the leaves.
7. Repeat this until they each have their own leaf back, having had chance to view all of the leaf slides.

