

DEREHAM CHURCH INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL



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Autumn science challenge!



Wednesday 18th October 2023

Dear parents/carers,

It is an exciting time of year where so many changes are seen within nature and wildlife! The half term break is fast approaching and we would love to encourage the children to be outside exploring and experiencing nature for themselves. We are setting the children a nature challenge to continue to develop and promote their science learning. Being in nature has many links with other subjects such as art as well as being beneficial for good mental health and wellbeing.

We are asking for the children to complete one or more nature activities, with science being at the heart of their exploring. There are ideas listed below but there are also lots of other fun autumn nature activities and ideas on websites such as the national trust.

Please take photos of your child completing their activity or send the activity into school with your child if possible. The children will have the opportunity to share their learning with others across the school; they will receive a certificate for their participation and a special science bookmark! We will also display the children's learning in school for all to see.

Please return any completed activities or photos by Friday 3rd November 2023. If an activity is creative, then please do remember to discuss the science aspect with your child such as names of trees, which type of tree a leaf has fallen from, names of insects, habitats etc.

I can't wait to see the children's responses to this challenge!

Thank you for your continual support,
Miss Webster
Science lead

Ideas for exploring nature:

- How many different types of leaf can you find? Can you identify and name the trees they are from? Draw and label your leaves.
- Make a leaf crown. Can you name the different leaves on your crown?



- Build a den.
- Make a stick man.
- Create a picture using only natural materials.



- Make a habitat to provide shelter for mini beasts. Can you draw a picture of your habitat and label?
- Search for insects, draw and label any you find. Do they have wings? How many legs do they have? (Remember to be gentle with any insects you find and to return them to their home).
- Use conkers to make patterns.
- Leaf painting. Find a variety of leaves, paint the bumpy side of the leaf and firmly press onto paper.
- Use wax crayons to take leaf rubbings. Can you label the names of the leaves?
- Make an autumn wreath with natural materials.
- Complete a nature scavenger hunt. You could glue all the things you find onto paper and label or you could draw pictures of your findings.
- Make your own leaf ID chart. This could be a chart to match leaves to their name or maybe to their colour. How else could you group leaves?



