

Growing up wild

In the Autumn

In this activity we want you to enjoy the autumn colours, feel the crunchy leaves and spot all the signs of autumn.



Ideas for all sections

- Go blackberry picking in early autumn and make a crumble
- Plant some bulbs to cheer someone up in the spring
- Hold a campfire and toast marshmallows
- Go stargazing on a crisp autumn night
- Plan an autumn themed camp or holiday
- Go on a walk and collect things to create nature art
- Identify the autumn leaves
- Spot autumn wildlife
- Create a log pile for wildlife
- Make a hedgehog cafe
- Spot caterpillars before they hide away over winter
- Go into the woods to observe the autumn colours
- Build a den

Programme links

Rainbows

A race against time UMA

Brownies

Hedgehog home UMA

Guides

Biodiversity blitz UMA

Rangers

Land art UMA



- Go for a walk in crunchy leaves
- Make an elf house
- Go for a walk and find faces in trees or make a forest guardian
- Play hide and seek in the trees and bushes
- In the woods look for windows and doors; imagine where they lead and share stories
- Throw sycamore seed 'helicopters'
- On a windy day catch as many leaves as you can before they touch the ground
- Make a home for wildlife like a bug hotel
- Become a detective and look for animal or bird prints on the ground
- Build a den or nest with branches and leaves

Programme links

Bug hunt UMA

Trails and trackers UMA

Birdie builders UMA

A race against time UMA

Story trail UMA

Tree-mendous senses UMA

Hidden nature UMA

Rain or shine

(Camp stage 1)

Keep warm

(Explore stage 1)

- Go on a scavenger hunt
- Go for a walk and listen to the sounds of autumn
- Play hide and seek in the trees and bushes
- In the woods look for windows and doors; imagine where they lead and share stories
- Build a giant nest big enough to sit in
- Make a bark boat and float it on a stream
- Help someone to rake up leaves and use them to make compost
- Leaf match – find a leaf, swap with a partner and then find a leaf to match
- Make a home for wildlife like a bug hotel or a hedgehog home
- Collect and play conkers
- Create art with nature like bark rubbings and leaf printing
- Go for a walk and see what Nature you can identify and find – leaves, seeds, berries
- Decorate a tree or make a leaf stack

Programme links

Nature noises UMA
Torchlit tour UMA
Catch a story UMA
Hedgehog home UMA
Fire starter
(Camp stage 2)
Best fire for the job
(Camp stage 3)
A country walk
(Explore stage 2)



Guides

- Collect plants to use as natural dyes and tie dye a t-shirt
- Go for a walk in the woods and look out for galls and fungi
- Go on a night hike
- Do a good turn and help someone get their garden ready for winter
- Find some animal poo and investigate safely
- Find a fallen tree and see if you can work out its age using tree rings
- Identify trees and plants in your surroundings
- Help in a local allotment before harvest
- Make a leaf crown
- Go geocaching
- Go for a walk and see what nature you can identify and find – leaves, seeds, berries
- Make a leaf stack
- Build a shelter in the woods
- Make an autumn nature mandala
- Do some nature weaving
- Learn how to whittle

Programme links

Sneaky s'mores UMA
Warm in the wild UMA
Best fire for the job
(Camp stage 3)
Fireside feast
(Camp stage 3)
Shelter sleepover
(Camp stage 5)
Wild cooking
(Camp stage 5)
Explorer's handbook
(Explore stage 5)



- Go on a mushroom foray with an expert
- Go pumpkin picking and carve them
- Make a leaf crown
- Cook an entire meal on a campfire
- Help in a local allotment before harvest
- Go on a night hike
- Collect and roast chestnuts
- Whittle a marshmallow toasting fork and use it
- Make a hedgehog house
- Make an autumn nature mandala
- Build a shelter with branches and leaves
- Learn how to whittle

Programme links

Land art UMA
Campfire cookout UMA
Shelter sleepover
(Camp stage 5)
Wild cooking
(Camp Stage 5)
Explorer's handbook
(Explore stage 5)
No pans, no problem!
(Camp stage 6)

Autumn facts

As winter draws nearer the days become shorter, so leaves receive less sunlight. This signals to the leaves to stop producing chlorophyll, which is what gives leaves their green colour.

Only 3 British mammal groups truly hibernate. All of our bat species, hedgehogs and dormice retreat to their cosy homes from around October/November until March/April the following year.



Spot the signs

It's not just the changing colours, falling leaves and autumn fruits that tell us autumn is here. Keep an eye out for swallows gathering on telegraph wires ready for their 6,000 mile, 6-week journey to South Africa!

We get some some arrivals, too - some birds migrate to the UK from colder places like Scandinavia and Iceland.



How did you go wild? Share your story with us!

Write to us:
www.girlguidinglaser.org.uk/volunteers/submit-news

Tag us:
#LaSERGrowingUpWild



We'd love to know what you think

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Thank you

Thank you to our team of Queen's Guides who contributed to these resources.