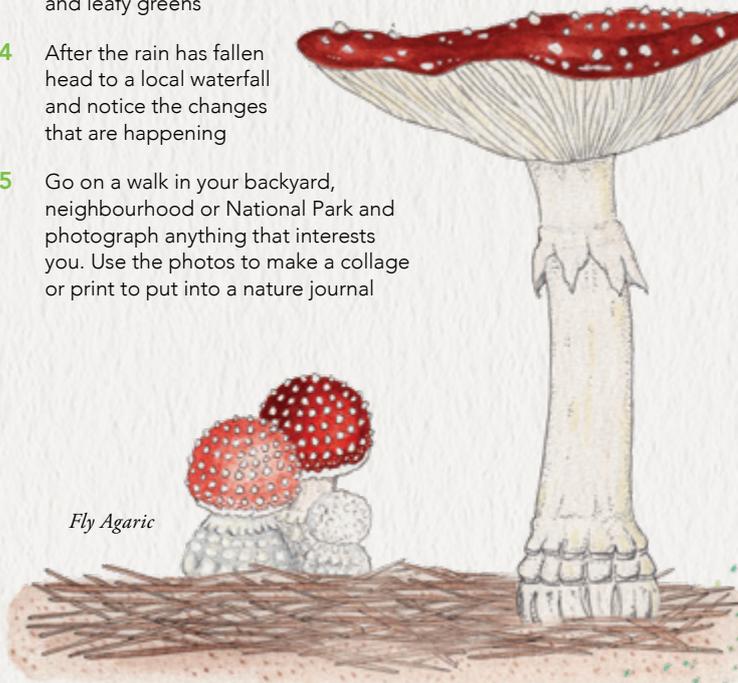




25 things to do in Autumn

- 1 Collect coloured autumn leaves and thread them on a string to make a necklace, garland or decoration
- 2 Visit a pine forest and look for weird and wonderful fungi as it grows on old stumps, trees and from the ground
- 3 Go for a neighbourhood walk in the soft autumn rain. Take in the smells, and examine what lichen and moss have come to life on tree trunks
- 4 Wander through a Botanic Garden and take time to learn about the plants or ask questions about their size, age, or where they may have come from
- 5 Learn who your local Aboriginal group is and what plants, traditions or places are special in autumn
- 6 Head to a National Park or caravan park and spend a few days camping – toast marshmallows, make damper and share stories around a campfire (check local fire ban guidelines)
- 7 Autumn is the perfect time to start a nature journal – sketch or paint fallen leaves, fungi or other autumn finds
- 8 Find a place to sit in the warm autumn sunshine and read poetry, a storybook or write something of your own
- 9 Visit your local orchard and pick seasonal fruit such as apples and figs
- 10 Choose a new hike in a National Park that you've never visited
- 11 Head to the coast and watch the waves crash or, if it's calm, search the shoreline for washed up treasure
- 12 Go on a backyard creature hunt – peek under rocks and logs for slaters, earwigs and millipedes. Examine leaves and other plants for native bees, caterpillars and ants
- 13 Make a 'campsite' in your backyard with a cubby (try and make it waterproof) and pretend campfire
- 14 Start a nature collection of rocks, feathers, leaves and other unique things (store them in a box, tray, container or on a nature table)
- 15 Prepare a veggie patch ready to plant seeds/seedlings such as spinach, lettuce, beetroot, and carrots
- 16 Spend a sunny autumn afternoon painting or drawing outside – think of what makes autumn different from the other seasons
- 17 Experiment with textures – crush autumn leaves and herbs, mix mud, break up bark and pick backyard flowers – create something beautiful
- 18 Create a living tepee using sticks or bamboo fastened together and plant a native or edible climber such as peas or beans
- 19 With gloves, spend a morning picking up rubbish along your local beach or park (avoid anything sharp)
- 20 Find a place with trees that you can wander through, climb and search for signs of life such as tree hollows and scratches from koalas or possums
- 21 Venture to trails that meander along coastal cliffs, take in the views, breathe the wild air and fill your lungs with the salty smell of the ocean
- 22 With friends explore a creek for signs of tadpoles, yabbies or float leaves or sticks downstream
- 23 Cook together with seasonal produce such as pumpkins, figs, apples and leafy greens
- 24 After the rain has fallen head to a local waterfall and notice the changes that are happening
- 25 Go on a walk in your backyard, neighbourhood or National Park and photograph anything that interests you. Use the photos to make a collage or print to put into a nature journal



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