

25 THINGS TO DO IN AUTUMN

- 1 Collect coloured autumn leaves and thread them on string to make a necklace, garland or decoration
- 2 Find dried-out autumn leaves and use them to make leaf stamps (paint one side of the leaf and then press it to paper)
- 3 Stand under a tree on a windy day and look up to watch the falling leaves
- 4 Walk through a pine forest after it's rained and check out the fungi, moss and lichen growing in and around the trees. Use NRM's Fungi ID chart and see how many you can find.
- 5 Go on a nature treasure hunt (<https://natureplaysa.org.au/wp/wp-content/uploads/NaturePlay-SA-Scavanger-Hunt-Artwork.pdf>)
- 6 Create a family 'nature table' with all your outdoor treasures
- 7 Rake up all the autumn leaves you can find, make the biggest pile to jump in or bury yourself in
- 8 Go for a walk in the autumn rain and listen to the birds and insects
- 9 Send fallen leaves down the creek - race your friends to see whose leaf swims furthest and fastest!
- 10 Go for a walk in a Botanic Garden and feel and smell the cool, damp air
- 11 Go on a camping adventure! From May, you'll be able to make a campfire. Find the best stick to toast marshmallows. Make sure you check for local fire ban advice.
- 12 Make an autumn picture book with photos you have taken or sketches you have drawn
- 13 Make little newspaper pots out of wet newspaper in an egg carton and plant winter vegetable seeds. Pop them straight in the ground (paper and all) when the seedlings have grown too big for their pots!
- 14 Find a local orchard and pick your own apples or seasonal fruit/berries
- 15 Visit one of our Parks of the Month and try the activities featured in our Nature Play SA blog – Shepherds Hill Recreation Park in March, Lincoln National Park in April, and Mt Remarkable National Park in June.
- 16 Find a tree to climb!
- 17 Go on a bug hunt!
- 18 Get your family or friends together and try geocaching. If you've never tried it, check out our instruction sheet (<https://natureplaysa.org.au/wp/wp-content/uploads/NaturePlay-ThingsToDo-Geocaching.pdf>)
- 19 Plant your very own vegetable or herb garden (try mint, radishes, silverbeet, parsley)
- 20 Go on a colour walk! Take a walk in your neighbourhood or a local natural place, collecting as many different colours as you can, or pick a colour and see how many things you can find in that shade!
- 21 Make a leaf rainbow from different coloured leaves you've collected.
- 22 Put on your jacket and boots and play outside in the rain – what does it feel, sound, taste, smell and look like?
- 23 Make a tree – collect a thick stick to make a trunk, smaller sticks for the branches, and fallen leaves for the foliage
- 24 Sit in your backyard for 5 mins with your eyes closed and see if you can count 5 different 'natural' sounds. Listen for birds, insects, animals and plants.
- 25 Go on a micro-hike. Layout a piece of string 1-2m long. Crawl along the ground following your string trail and see what creatures or things you can find. Now see how many creatures you can find using a magnifying glass

Remember to get permission if you go out on your own, and take a drink bottle, sunscreen, and a hat!