

fireflies  
presents...

# F is for FALL



Designed for children ages 3 – 8  
Written by Jocelyn Bartle  
Illustrated by Kevin Bartle

Dear Parents & Teachers,

- We believe in childhood play.
- We believe that, as parents, we must be proactive when it comes to creating experiences that inspire creativity and spark the imagination.
- We believe in intentionally creating family memory-making events.

**Fireflies Presents** celebrates the imagination and creativity of what it means to be a child. **Fireflies Presents** was created by the educational team of **FirefliesBlog.com**. The Chasing Fireflies Blog is for parents and teachers of young children. **FirefliesBlog.com** is filled with insights on how to create legacy moments that encourage children to communicate with confidence and view their world with a sense of wonder. We invite you to check out the blog and follow for additional resources.

### What is a Fireflies Presents Family Night?

It is a night where the children in your home put on their own show. **Fireflies Presents** is designed for one or more children between the ages of 3 – 8. The younger the child(ren) the more parent involvement is needed in the area of “performance” – but either way, very little preparation or practice is required. Non-readers can take center stage as easily as young readers. We kept it simple...promise!

It is our hope that the following pages will be the spark that motivates you to create an “evening of the arts” in your home to celebrate your family. **Fireflies Presents** is designed to take place in your family room, centered around a puppet theater, and with the smell of fresh popcorn coming from the large bowl on the coffee table. We have designed our unique puppet theater available for purchase for **Fireflies Presents**. You can purchase yours at **FirefliesBlog.com** OR to get started you can throw a tablecloth across a curtain rod suspended in a doorway! Quick and easy!

## It begins with a theme and a ticket...

### Current theme: “F is for FALL”

1. Select an evening and invite family members to gather in your home. If you have extended family living nearby, be sure to invite them as well. Make sure everyone knows they’ll need a ticket!
2. Pre-print the materials provided in this packet so you’ll be ready to go!
3. Set up your performance area by lining up chairs in front of a doorway that holds the **Fireflies Presents** puppet theater.
4. Ask a child to collect tickets before the audience takes their seats. Watch that child’s face light up as they realize they are a part of something very special; something that requires a *real* ticket!
5. Give every person attending a sing-a-long handout & popcorn cone.  
(Keep a large bowl filled with popcorn nearby, so that guests may refill as needed.)

### SHOWTIME! **Fireflies Presents... “F is for FALL”**

*Remember, we have given you several options for the evening. Choose the number of program elements based on how many children are participating and their ages.*

Enjoy!  
Jocelyn Bartle

## Fireflies Presents Program Elements

Pick and choose from the following activities and/or add your own elements, to make your family evening uniquely yours. Be sensitive to the ages of your child(ren), their attentions span, and abilities. We suggest that each show last no more than 10 minutes depending of the ages of the participants. Use the following as suggestions & select accordingly to create an evening of joy, laughter and family memories – in other words...a family legacy moment.

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Opening and Closing	
Begin each show with a welcome by one of the children. After the show is over a simple, “ <i>Thank you for coming to our show</i> ” works, after the children take their bows of course!	

## Recite a POEM!

Older child (or adult) reads while the younger child listens for the word cues and presents the puppets.

### “Chipmunk Cheeks”

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Charlie the chipmunk  
    Stuffed his chubby cheeks  
He gathered enough nuts  
    To store away for many weeks  
He darted through the grass  
    And scurried all about  
Until his tiny chipmunk legs  
    Were tired and worn out!



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### Family Sing-a-Long

Handout for the sing-a-longs may be found at the end of this packet of info.

#### I'm a Little Pumpkin

(sung to “I’m a Little Teapot”)

I’m a little pumpkin  
Orange and round  
I grow from a seed  
Right out of the ground  
At the pumpkin patch is where I’ll be  
Won’t you come and please pick me?



## Family Sing-a-Long

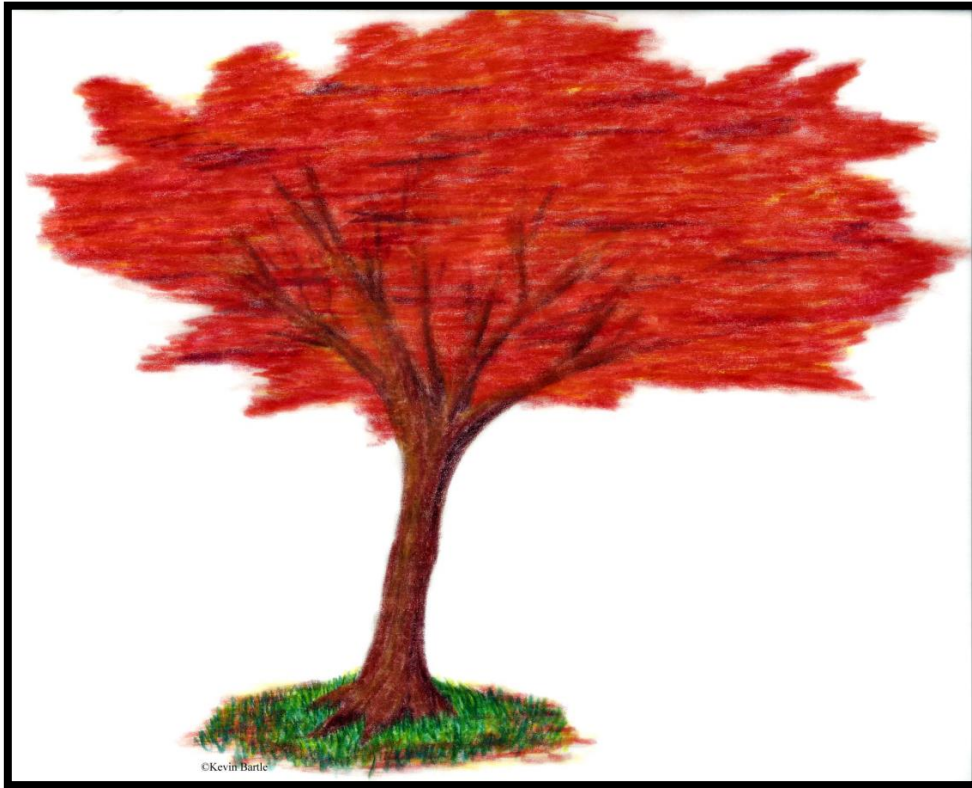
*Handout for the sing-a-longs may be found at the end of this packet of info.*

### **The Leaves Are Tumbling Down**

(sung to "The Farmer in the Dell")

The leaves are tumbling down,  
The leaves are tumbling down,  
Fall is here and winter's near,  
The leaves are tumbling down.

The leaves are tumbling down,  
The leaves are tumbling down,  
Red, yellow, orange, and brown,  
The leaves are tumbling down.



### **Dancing Leaves**

*The narrator recites the poem while younger children work the puppet.  
Or have an older child read or recite the poem.*

Leaves are fluttering softly down,  
They make a carpet on the ground.  
Then, whoosh! The wind comes blowing by,  
And sends them dancing way up high!



## The Pumpkin

We picked an orange pumpkin  
The largest we could find  
We scooped out the gooey insides  
And only left the rind  
We carved a silly face  
And placed a candle in  
We lit it up so all could see  
Our little pumpkin grin!

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## **Family Sing-a-Long**

*Handout for the sing-a-longs may be found at the end of this packet of info.*

## **Busy Chipmunks**

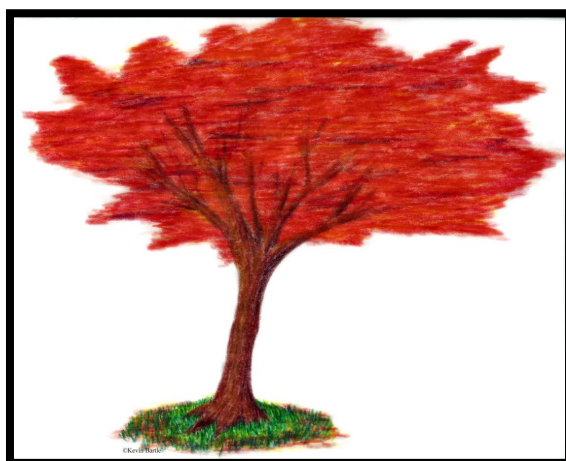
(sung to "When Johnny Comes Marching Home")

The chipmunks are busy scurrying 'round, today, today.  
They are storing all their nuts – away, away.  
High in the trees and on the ground,  
They're hiding nuts all around.  
Oh, they work so hard.  
So later, they can play!



## The Leaves on the Trees

(sung to "The Wheels on the Bus")



The leaves of the trees are yellow and red  
Yellow and red  
Yellow and red  
The leaves of the trees are yellow and red  
All through the town.

The leaves of the trees make a rustling sound  
A rustling sound  
A rustling sound  
The leaves of the trees make a rustling sound  
All through the town.

The leaves of the trees come falling down  
Falling down  
Falling down  
The leaves of the trees come falling down  
All through the town.

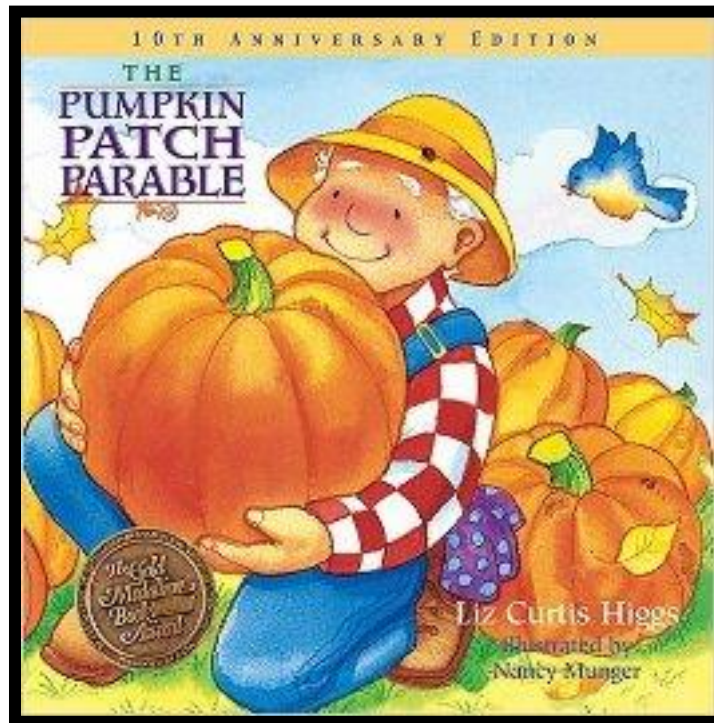
The children rake the leaves with a swish, swish, swish  
Swish, swish, swish  
Swish, swish, swish  
The children rake the leaves with a swish, swish, swish,  
All through the town.

We play in the pile by jumping up and down  
Up and down  
Up and down  
We play in the pile by jumping up and down  
All through the town.

## Family Read-Aloud Time

Choose a family favorite book or story to read aloud. This would be a great role for a parent, grandparent or favorite uncle or neighbor. Remember to include as many family members as possible in your program. The following is our pick for **Fireflies Presents Family Read-Aloud Time**.

## The Pumpkin Patch Parable by Liz Curtis Higgs



*The Pumpkin Patch Parable*-This charming story for children illustrates how a loving farmer can turn a simple pumpkin into a simply glorious sight. In the same way, God's transforming love can fill each of our hearts with joy and light. Liz Curtis Higgs created this parable as a way to share the Good News with her own precious children each harvest season . . . and now with children everywhere.

## **After Show Celebration**

Set up a time for autographs after your show. (Be sure to have crayons ready.)



How to make the puppets you will need for **Fireflies Presents**.

1. Print out puppets on card stock



2. Fold in half (Puppets are designed to be the same on the front back so children don't need to worry about the positioning of their puppets.)



3. Cut off 2 – 3 inches from the bottom if needed – some puppets may fill the whole page.



4. Hot glue gun a 12" wooden dowel or paint stirrer  
The dowels come precut in packages and the paint stirrers are free at Walmart, Lowes etc. if you ask nicely. 😊



5. Fold puppet over dowel.



6. Ready for SHOWTIME!



# **“F is for FALL”**

## **Family Sing-a-Longs**

### **The Leaves of the Trees**

*(Tune: The Wheels on the Bus)*

The leaves of the trees are yellow and red  
Yellow and red  
Yellow and red  
The leaves of the trees are yellow and red  
All through the town.

The leaves of the trees make a rustling sound  
A rustling sound  
A rustling sound  
The leaves of the trees make a rustling sound  
All through the town.

The leaves of the trees come falling down  
Falling down  
Falling down  
The leaves of the trees come falling down  
All through the town.

The children rake the leaves with a  
Swish, swish, swish  
Swish, swish, swish,  
Swish, swish, swish,  
The children rake the leaves with a  
Swish, swish, swish,  
All through the town.

We play in the pile by jumping up and down  
Up and down  
Up and down  
We play in the pile by jumping up and down  
All through the town.

### **The Leaves are Tumbling Down**

*(Tune: Farmer in the Dell)*

The leaves are tumbling down,  
The leaves are tumbling down,  
Fall is here and winter's near,  
The leaves are tumbling down.

The leaves are tumbling down,  
The leaves are tumbling down,  
Red, yellow, orange, and brown,  
The leaves are tumbling down.

### **The Busy Chipmunks**

*(Tune: When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again)*

The chipmunks are busy scurrying 'round,  
today, today.  
They are storing all their nuts – away, away.  
High in the trees and on the ground,  
They're hiding nuts all around.  
Oh, they work so hard.  
So later, they can play!

### **I'm a Little Pumpkin**

*(Tune: I'm a Little Teapot)*

I'm a little pumpkin  
Orange and round  
I grow from a seed  
Right out of the ground  
At the pumpkin patch is where I'll be  
Won't you come and please pick me?



# Popcorn Cone

## Instructions

- 1 Cut a circle out of a piece of any kind of paper.
- 2 Cut a triangle by making two cuts to the center of the circle as shown. The triangle should be one quarter of the circle.
- 3 Fold the circle, overlapping the edges a little, and tape together! You now have your cone! Have fun with it!





# Admission Ticket





