

Four Seasons Handprint

Objective: This craft will teach your child about the four seasons. In a fun creative way, kids can decorate their handprint tree with the leaves, animals, weather patterns and activities you would find on or near trees throughout the year.



Materials:

- 4 sheets of paper (any kind of paper you have at home)
- Pencil
- Crayons, markers, colored pencils or paint supplies

Instructions:

1. Label each sheet of paper for a different season (Spring, Summer, Fall, & Winter)
2. Trace your hand and wrist in the middle of each sheet of paper. Your hand and fingers will be the tree branches and your wrist will be the tree trunk. Make sure



to spread your fingers out wide on the hand that is being traced so your tree branches aren't too close together.

3. Color in your tree trunk and branches. You can use crayons, colored pencils, markers or paint.
4. For each season's tree add in the additional items you would find on and around the tree during that season. Here are some examples:
 - a. Spring- Flower buds, green leaves, birds, rain,
 - b. Summer- Sunshine, green leaves, bird houses, bird nests, birds
 - c. Fall- Multi-colored leaves, pumpkins, falling leaves, rain
 - d. Winter- Snow, holiday lights, snowman, cardinals

What did we learn?

Climate change has caused the timing of our seasons to shift and blend into each other. A slight change in temperature can cause spring to come sooner and can delay the first frost until later in the fall. Changes in the timing of our seasons can impact everything from plant and animal ecosystems to the physical well being of humans. For example, an earlier spring might lead to a longer growing season which could allow for invasive species and pests to develop stronger than before. It could also mean an earlier and longer allergy season for humans. Unusually warm weather in late winter can cause plants to sprout new buds too early, leaving them vulnerable to late winter frosts. Climate change doesn't just have an affect on global temperatures or sea level. It can also affect many parts of our daily lives.

Additional Resources:

1. Listen to Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" (<https://youtu.be/GRxofEmo3HA>) and see if you can distinguish between the four seasons in his music.