

# Leaves

by Vijaya Khisty Bodach

In this non-fiction, early reader, children will see photographs of real leaves and learn about the basics of foliage.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *When I say "leaves" what else do you think of?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder what kind of plant produces that leaf?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. The illustrations in this book are very detailed so allow plenty of time for the children to look. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *Leaves*

- stems: the long main part of a plant that makes leaves
- veins: the small tubes inside of a leaf
- oxygen: a colorless gas in the air
- needles: a long thin pointed part of a tree
- autumn: the season after summer and before winter
- spring: the season after winter and before summer
- broad: large and spacious
- narrow: small in width and limited in size

### After you read:

- What do plants need?
- What do leaves make and use?
- Where do you find veins? How are veins used?
- Name some of the different kinds of leaves.
- What colors are maple leaves?
- What kinds of leaves can we eat? Giraffes?

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## Elements of a Book

Go through the book and name each element of a book (see below). If desired, choose several books and have the children practice naming the components of a book.

### Elements of a book

- Book Title
- Author (the person that writes the words)
- Illustrator (the person who draws, creates or takes the pictures)
- Publishing Company (the people that take all the words and pictures and make the book)
- Page numbers
- Front Cover (includes author and illustrator)
- Title Page (includes book title, author, illustrator and publisher)
- Table of Contents – in chapter and non-fiction books (includes chapter titles and page numbers)
- Glossary Page (includes rare words and definitions)
- References (includes other books similar in content or by the same author)
- About the Author (sometimes includes author biography and photo)
- Spine (holds the book together and includes the title and author's last name)
- Back Cover (sometimes includes publisher, author, illustrator and more information about the book)