

Collecting Leaves and Flowers

Recommended for: Elders and toddlers (18 mos. - 3 yrs.) or preschoolers (3-5 yrs.)

Objectives:

- Interact/Communicate (verbal/non-verbal)
- Enhance self-esteem/ Pride in accomplishment
- Stay on task/Complete an activity
- Work as a team/Cooperate
- Be generative/ Nurturing/ Helpful/ Caring



Materials needed (per pair):

- 1-2 Gallon size plastic bag
- Nice weather
- Place to walk near live plants

Methods:

Facilitator Preparation

1. Check around the area you are going to collect leaves and flowers from to make sure there are plenty and they are available for you to take. Also, be sure the plants are not thorny or toxic.

Intergenerational Participants

1. Pair up 1 adult and 1 child and share a plastic bag.
2. Collect flowers or leaves they like or find interesting and put into the bag.
3. When you are finished, press the flowers to save for a later opportunity. (See Leaf Rubbing Opportunity)

Special Considerations:

- Make sure the participants do not wander off alone.
- Tell the participants the leaves and flowers are not to be eaten.
- Participants that might not be able to stoop or bend over may have some difficulty in this opportunity.

Key Conversation/Facilitation Questions

- What kind of flower did you find?
- What is your favorite flower?
- Can you hold the bag while _____ puts this flower inside?