**The themes for the month of November were:**

* **Fall** - We discussed the changing of the seasons from Summer to fall.  We talked about the characteristics of fall, such as the weather changes, leaves changing and the animals that you notice more often (ex. squirrels gathering food for the winter).
* **Leaves** - The children enjoyed learning about the leaves changing color and being able to witness it from our window in our classroom and out at recess.  We talked about the colors that leaves can change, and the sound that they make when you step on them.  We also loved talking about how fun it is to jump into a freshly raked pile of leaves!
* **Thanksgiving** - We learned all about the meaning and the basics of Thanksgiving.  We discussed what it means to be thankful and who/what we are thankful for.
* **Lively Letters** - This month we learned about the letters V, K, and G.  We added them to our group of index cards, so the children can practice making them and be reminded of the story that goes with each letter.

**Some of the books we read this month:**

* *Tap the Magic Tree*by Christie Matheson
* *My First Thanksgiving* by Tomie dePaola
* *Leaf Man* by Lois Ehlert
* *Turkey Trouble* by Wendi Silvano

**Some of the activities we did this month:**

* Lively Letter index cards for V, K, G
* "What I am Thankful for" Turkeys
* Leaf People
* Squirrels carrying a nut
* Pilgrims

**How to reinforce these themes at home:**

* **Nature Walk**- While outside, discuss what you see, hear, and feel in nature.
* **Letters** - Practice the letters learned this month, V, K, G.  Practice writing them in sugar, salt, shaving cream, in the tub, etc.  Remember always start your letters at the top!!!
* **What we are thankful for...** - Even though Thanksgiving is over, continue to talk about the meaning of being thankful and who/what we are and should be thankful for day to day.
* **Leaf Sorting** - I know the leaves are being raked away, but if there are any left, pick some up and sort them!  Sort by the types of leaves, the size, the color, etc.  If you can't find leaves, sort objects around the house!  Then have the children count the number of objects in each group; great one: one correspondence activity.