

Make a Fall Suncatcher

Fall is the time of year when the leaves turn from green to yellow, gold, orange and red. We are lucky in Maryland to be able to see trees of many different colors. In order to save some of these beautiful leaves, try making a fall suncatcher.

You Will Need:

- Colorful leaves
- Old phone book or newspapers
- Wax paper
- · Iron and ironing board
- Scissors
- Ribbon or yarn

What to do:

- Go for a walk in your neighborhood or park and look for colorful leaves. See how many different shapes and colors you can find. Try to avoid leaves with holes or brown spots.
- Put the leaves between the pages of an old phone book or newspaper and put a heavy weight on top to flatten them.
- Leave them for only a day or two. You do not want to leave them for too long or they will turn brown.
- You will need a grown-up for the next step.
- Put an old piece of cloth on the ironing board.
- Put a piece of wax paper on the cloth, wax side up and arrange the leaves on the paper. Check it to make sure you like the way it looks.
- Put another piece of wax paper on top of the leaves, wax side down.
- Have your grown-up helper set the iron on the low setting and carefully iron the wax paper for a few seconds until the wax melts.
- Once the wax paper has cooled, trim the edges. Poke a hole in each top corner and make a
 yarn or ribbon hanger. Hang the suncatcher in your window and enjoy the pretty colors.

Outdoor Activities Children in Nature Maryland Department of Natural Resources