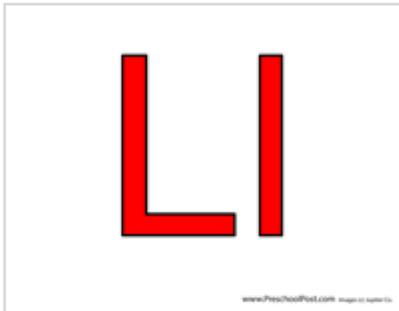
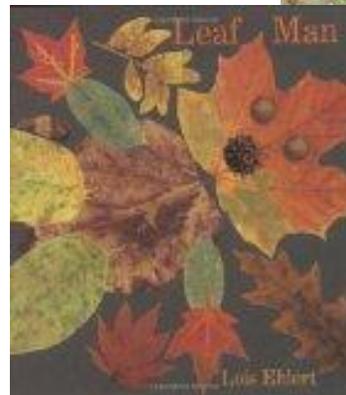
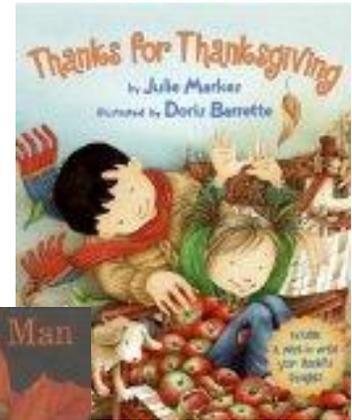


## Preschool Post Lesson 13



[www.PreschoolPost.com](http://www.PreschoolPost.com)



**Letter:** L

**Preschool Theme:** Thanksgiving, Fall leaves.

**Bible Theme:** Being thankful; gratitude and fellowship.

**Morning Circle:** Prepare a letter bag for this morning's circle time. Include [several "L" objects](#), including a toy lizard, a lemon, a scrap of lace, and perhaps a toy ladybug or a picture of one. Fill the bottom of the bag with colorful autumn leaves but do not reveal them yet. Take the objects, one by one except for the leaves, from the bag and have the children guess the name of each one, and then ask them to identify and repeat the beginning sound of each. Show the children [the letter "L"](#) and repeat its sound together. Now take the letter bag and pour out some autumn leaves of varying colors. Ask the children to tell you what they are, then identify "leaves" as another "L" word. Take a few moments to talk with the children about the colorful Autumn leaves they have been experiencing lately, and pass around the leaves you brought in and let the children feel their waxy and rough texture, smell them, and compare and contrast the differences and similarities among them.

**Read:** [Leaf Man](#), by Lois Ehlert. Enjoy this adventure of blowing leaves, and imagine with the children the places those drifting leaves might wander. Use this opportunity to review some of the geographical concepts we have been studying this month. Use the directions of north, south, east, and west used in the story with a map of your town, state, or country, or even a globe, to show where the leaves in the story may have been blown.

### **Music & Movement:**

[Leaf Rhyme:](#) (Play a relaxing tune in the background while you act out this rhyme with your children:)

Autumn leaves fall to the ground, (pretend to be leaves gently falling down)  
yellow, orange, green and brown.

They crunch, crunch, crunch, under my feet. (stomp feet as if walking through leaves)



They sniff, sniff, sniff, smell really neat. (pretend to smell crushed leaves)

They twirl, twirl, twirl, down from the sky. (turn and twirl like twirling leaves)

They float, float, float away - goodbye! (gently "blow" around the room, like a drifting leaf)

Autumn leaves fall to the ground, (quietly drift down to a "sleeping" position)

yellow, orange, green and brown.

**Snack:** Leafy greens! Show the children a variety of leaves that we actually eat. You might show them cabbage, spinach, curly endive, rocket (arugula), celery leaves, bok choy, mint, basil, oregano, thyme, clover, romaine lettuce, etc. Take a moment to explore these various leaves, *without tasting them!* How do they smell, feel, look? Let your little ones have a garden salad for lunch, reflecting on how good God is to provide us with such a bounty from the earth! (Please be aware of any allergies your children may have! Be sure to tell the children never to eat anything they find in the wild; some leafy greens are poisonous!)

Alternately, if your plan on celebrating Thanksgiving with your preschoolers, incorporate garden foods into your Thanksgiving feast, focusing on what leaves the vegetables on your table may have had before they were prepared.

### **Centers:**

1. Leaf Symmetry. Prepare a table that shows symmetrical and asymmetrical leaves. Provide teacher guidance to explain the concepts of symmetry to the children. Provide [colorful templates](#) of half a leaf shape for the children to cut out. Show them how to fold

the paper along the line of symmetry, cut out the shape, then unfold the paper to reveal a whole leaf shape that is the same on both sides. Discuss the children's findings. Make lots of symmetrical leaves and hang them from the ceiling!

**2. Leaf Rubbings and Sorting.** Further develop the children's understanding of symmetry by letting them make leaf rubbings. Provide a selection of symmetrical and asymmetrical leaves. Let the children use plain white copy paper and the wide end of crayons to create an impression of the leaves they choose. Help the children sort their rubbings. Are they symmetrical or asymmetrical? Have the children sort the leaves they chose by color, shape, symmetry, etc.

**3. Home Center.** Provide an active "Thanksgiving kitchen" for your children. Pretend to be preparing for a feast. Let the children set a nice holiday table, complete with Thanksgiving tablecloths, centerpieces of pumpkins and gourds, and a paper turkey. Tell them they need to cook all the delicious dishes they can, and provide them with all the pots and pans, dishes and play food they will need for a perfect pretend Thanksgiving dinner.

### **Art Activity: Leaf People**

Provide large piles of leaves of all sorts, from colorful maple leaves to vegetable leaves to pine needle and acorns. Give each child a large piece of construction paper and some glue sticks and help them create their own leaf creatures, based upon their inspiration from today's story.



**Bible Storytime:**

**Read:** Thanks for Thanksgiving, by Julie Markes. Share this warm story with the children, taking the time to talk with them about the things they are thankful for that are relevant to *their* experience. (For example, not all children have both a mother and a father, or both grandparents, so be sure to focus on the things that they can relate to.) Ask the children how *their* families celebrate Thanksgiving. Talk about some of the common customs, and then relate briefly how the first Thanksgiving came about. Emphasize that this is a time to be thankful to God for all the blessings He has given us, and that all good things (including all the nice things from the story) come from God.

Take your discussion of blessings one step further with the children. Ask them why do they think God blesses us? You will get many good answers, including "because He loves us." Encourage the children to think about what we can do with the things God blesses us with. Help the children to think about sharing, helping, and blessing others. Explain that God expects us to use our blessings to bless others. Explain that Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to remember that we are to not only be grateful for our family, friends, and blessings, but that we are to work hard to help others, work together, and keep our eyes open for ways we can bless others, both within our families and outside of them.

**Bible Verse Bracelets:** "God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others." [2 Corinthians 9:8](#)

**Bible Song:** "[Count Your Blessings](#)" from the album "Songs Kids Love To Sing: 25 More Sunday School Songs."

**Additional Activity:**

["Count Your Blessings" number journal.](#) Make a little "book" out of blank paper. Use colored paper and fold the pages in half. Staple or tape the area where the papers are folded to create a "binding." Help the children to write a number on each page, from 1 to 10, or 1 to 5, depending on the ages of your children. Then, let the children decide what things they are thankful for, and let them either draw or paste magazine cut-outs on their pages. For example, if, on the "3" page, the child is thankful for friends, draw or find 3 "friend" images to put onto the number "3" page. Fill the book up with blessings, and then decorate the cover.

**Optional Resources:**

[Handwriting Sheet L is for Love](#)

[Bible Handwriting Sheet L is for Lamb](#)

[Autumn Leaves Poetry Worksheet](#)

**Helpful Links:**

[Fall Leaf Printables at Preschool Mom](#)

[Thanksgiving Bible Resources at Christian Preschool Printables](#)



**Notes:**

---

---

---

---

---

---