

# FAMILY FALL GUIDE

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## SQUANTO HELPS BUILD DESIRABLE CHARACTER TRAITS IN CHILDREN

Written by Eric Kooymans

Squanto's story provides a wonderful backdrop to talk to our children about character. It is difficult to find meaning in adversity. How can and does God work EVERYTHING together for good in our lives, especially when our struggles make no sense? The answer boils down to our world view.

Do we struggle to fit God into our plans or do we fit into His? Are circumstances good only when they bring ease and reward? Teaching perseverance and a godly worldview are solid steps to building Christian character in our children. Squanto's story is a timely example we can use to help our children develop desirable character traits.

God is the creator of all things, and the unfolding of history is His-story. He has a master plan for all of humanity: the rise and fall of nations, the preaching of the good news to all men, and the birth of babies who will become world changers. A homegrown world changer might be sitting around your kitchen table right now!

Squanto's story poignantly reveals God's sovereign plans. English traders landed in what was to become Plymouth, Massachusetts a decade before the pilgrims arrived. Wampanoag Indians came to trade with the Englishmen. Sadly, the traders took Indians prisoner and carried them to Spain to sell them into slavery.

Even in the midst of this tragic circumstance, God kept a young Indian boy named Squanto safe. A kind Spanish monk bought him, treated him well, and taught him



*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord!  
Psalm 150:6*



## FALL SENSORY FOR PRESCHOOL

Written by Christie Smith

Now that fall is in full swing, it's a fun time to explore nature and complete fun fall activities and crafts. Since preschoolers thrive on their senses, sensory play and activities will help enrich their development.

### Sensory Projects

**Pumpkin Spice Play Dough-** Preschoolers love play dough. Squishing hands through the soft texture is very stimulating, plus it encourages creativity. Take it up a notch by making it with a fun fall scent like pumpkin.

Here are the ingredients:

- 1 cup water
- 2 tsp Pumpkin Pie Spice
- 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp Cream of Tartar
- 1/4 cup salt
- 1 tsp vegetable oil
- Food coloring (optional)

Add an orange color to the play dough to revolve around the pumpkin theme.

**Harvest Discovery Bottles -** These are so much fun to make and play with. Fill a plastic bottle with mini leaves, mini pumpkins, etc.

**Harvest Sensory Bin -** Grab any size bin you desire and fill it with nature. Wood chips, shells, acorns, corn husks, pine cones, hay, etc. are just a few of the many items you can use to fill the bins. Put toy cars and tractors into the harvest bin and watch your preschooler become a little farmer.

**Painting Pine Cones -** Preschoolers and painting go hand in hand. Go outside and hunt for pine cones, bring inside, and paint with spice paints. Add your favorite fall spices to autumn paint colors. The pine cones will display beautiful autumn colors with fall scents.

### S'mores Menu




*The Original*  
Chocolate \* Marshmallow \* Graham Cracker

*The Grasshopper*  
Peppermint Patty \* Marshmallow  
Graham Cracker

*The Nutty Buddy*  
Peanut Butter Cup \* Marshmallow  
Graham Cracker

*The Oreo*  
Cookies N' Cream Bar \* Marshmallow  
Graham Cracker

*Rice Krispies Delight*  
Rice Krispie Treats \* Marshmallow  
Chocolate

## FAMILY FALL CHECKLIST

Visit a pumpkin patch

Visit an apple orchard

Make leaf art

Make candy apples

Have a campfire with s'mores

Sleep under the stars

Rake leaves and jump

Go on a nature walk

Carve a pumpkin

Gratitude Pumpkin

Jump in Leaves

## GRATITUDE PUMPKIN

Written by Jess Todd

One of the beautiful things of homeschooling is the opportunity to disciple our children. Leading up to Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to create a gratitude pumpkin. Simply get a large pumpkin and sharpie and every day add something you are thankful for! See how quickly you can fill up the pumpkin with all that God has done for your family!

