



**Tap the Magic Tree** by Christine Matheson

**Related Books:**

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr.

Pie In the Sky by Lois Ehlert

A Tree for Me by Nancy Van Laan

A Tree Is Nice by Janice May Udry

Fall Leaves Fall by Zoe Hall

**Songs:**

**The Leaves**

*Tune: The Wheels on the Bus*

The leaves on the trees turn orange and red  
Orange and red, orange and red,  
The leaves on the trees turn orange and red  
All around the town.

The leaves of the tree come tumbling down,  
Tumbling down, tumbling down,  
The leaves of the tree come tumbling down,  
All around the town.

The leaves of the trees go "swish, swish, swish,"  
"Swish, swish, swish, swish, swish, swish,"  
The leaves of the trees go "swish, swish, swish"  
All around the town.

We'll rake them in a pile and jump right in!  
Jump right in, Jump right in!  
We'll rake them in a pile and jump right in!  
All around the town.

## Picking up Apples

*Tune: Paw-Paw Patch*

Have children pick up paper apples scattered around the room. Count how many are picked up by the end of the song. Sing many times so every child has a turn.

Picking up apples, put them in my basket.  
Picking up apples, put them in my basket.  
Picking up apples, put them in my basket.  
Way down yonder in the apple orchard.

### Craft:



Give the children a large piece of paper that is divided into quadrants. Pre-label the paper or help children to label the seasons according to the book, each season at the top of one quadrant. In each quadrant, have the children draw a bare tree, like the one at the beginning of this story. Then have the children add details to each tree, representing the seasons. The first box (winter) can show only the bare tree or can include snow. In the next box (spring), they should draw green leaves. In the third box (summer), they should draw pink blossoms, and in the last box (fall), they should draw red apples.

### Physical Activity:

Take a nature walk outside with the class and stop to look closely at a tree (choose one that's not an evergreen!). Observe the tree and ask the children to describe it. Then ask the children if they think the tree looks like this all year round. Why or why not? Does it change? When? Why?

### Finger plays:

“Way Up High in the Apple Tree”

Way up high in the apple tree (stretch arms up high)  
I saw two apples looking at me (hold up two fingers)  
I shook that tree as hard as I could (make a shaking motion)  
Down came the apples... (make a downward motion)  
And mmm, they were good! (smile and rub stomach)

5 little leaves in the tall tall tree  
As bright and pretty as they can be  
Along came the wind  
Blowing all around  
And one bright leaf  
Fell to the ground

Four little leaves...

