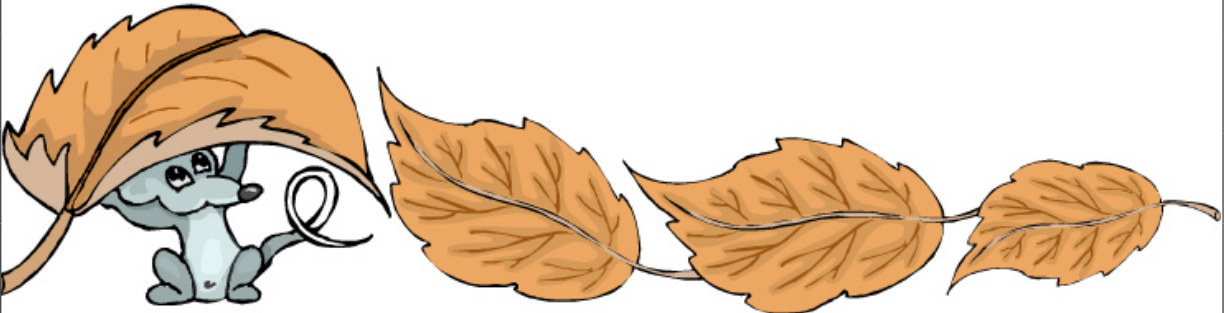


# Back to School and Autumn Poems



Collected by Jean Roberts  
Primary Success



# For The Adults...

Back to work so soon!  
No more lounging until noon.  
Bye to watching late night shows.  
No more dancing 'till they close.  
Granny isn't able to play.  
Baby, you can't spend the day.  
All the housework was never done.  
But the shopping sure was fun!  
Trips to the beach were grand,  
With friends we walked the sands.  
But it's back to work we go.  
For as we all know -  
Honey, we've run out of money!  
*Author Unknown*



T'was the night before school started  
When all through the town  
The parents were cheering  
It was a riotous sound!  
By eight the kids were washed  
And tucked into bed,  
While memories of homework  
Filled them with dread.  
New pencils, new folders,  
New notebooks, too,  
New teachers, new friends,  
Their anxiety grew.  
The parents just giggled  
When they learned of this fright,  
And shouted upstairs -  
GO TO BED!  
IT'S A SCHOOL NIGHT!

The holidays are over.....  
"What holidays?" I say -  
I did go to the beach  
And my kids and I did play.  
But every day, no matter what  
I did, or where I went,  
From working in my garden  
To camping in a tent,  
September first was with me  
And thoughts of things ahead.  
I planned when I was swimming  
And while I lay in bed.

They all say that teachers  
Have this cushy year  
With two months off each summer,  
It makes me shed a tear.  
For teaching's always with me  
Especially with this grade.  
The great responsibility  
Never seems to fade.  
It seems odd to say this,  
And I'm sure it isn't cool -  
But I'm glad the summer's over  
And I am back at school!  
*Jean R.*

*A note: many of these poems have been in classrooms for years - some I used in the 1960s and they were not new then. I have tried to omit any with known authors, and I would appreciate your help - if you know the author of a poem, please tell me and I will remove it from the booklet. Thank you!*

# The First Days

## New

New school  
New teacher  
New friends  
New books  
I feel new too.  
Do you?

## School Morning

School is waiting  
Can't be late.  
Hurry, hurry!  
Half-past eight.  
Out the door  
And down the street,  
Then softly, quietly,  
Take your seat.



Hooray! Hooray!  
Today's the day.  
I'm off to school  
I'm on my way.

I'll meet new friends  
I'll write my name.  
I'll read a book  
And play a game.

Hooray! Hooray!  
Today's the day.  
I'm off to school  
I'm on my way.

Off to school  
We go together  
In September's  
Sunny weather.

## Good Morning!

Good morning, good morning!  
School has begun.  
Good morning, good morning!  
Isn't it fun!

Pencils and crayons  
Scissors and glue  
Erasers and paper  
Reading books, too.

Good morning, good morning!  
School has begun.  
Good morning, good morning!  
Isn't it fun!

## Back To School

Today I hurry off to school,  
To work and learn and play.  
I am in grade two this year.  
What a happy day!

## Welcome Song

Welcome, welcome  
Welcome, welcome  
To grade one  
To grade one  
We are going to read  
We are going to write  
Oh, what fun  
Oh, what fun!

## Welcome

Welcome, children.  
I'm happy you're here.  
We're all going to have  
A wonderful year.

We'll read  
And we'll write  
And we'll sing  
And we'll play.

We'll build  
And we'll paint  
And learn new things  
Each day.

## September

September is a time  
Of beginning for all,  
Beginning of school  
Beginning of fall.

## First Day of School

On the first day of school  
Everything is new.  
It's your first day with me,  
It's my first day with you.

I've been waiting for today.  
Have you been waiting, too?  
You'll have fun in Grade One  
And I'll have fun with you.



## My First Day

See me skip.  
See me run.  
I'm going to school like everyone.  
See me walk.  
See me grin.  
When the bell goes, I go in.  
See me jump.  
See me play.  
I'm in Grade One, hooray!

*(to the tune of "Did you Ever See a Lassie")*

Here we are together,  
Together, together,  
Here we are together,  
Back at school again.  
There's \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_,  
Here we are together,  
At school again.



## Back to School

School! School! Here we come!  
Lots to learn and so much fun.  
Working, playing all day through,  
And here's my favorite thing to do:

---

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## Names

Cheer for your name, let's hear your name.  
Say it with a shout!  
Giggle your name and wiggle your name.  
Really let it out!  
Growl your name and howl your name.  
Stretch it until it's long!  
Chant your name and pant your name.  
Sing it like a song.  
Clap your name and snap your name.  
Announce it loud and clear!  
Spell your name and yell your name.  
Tell the world you're here!



Hello everybody, how do you do?  
How do you do? How do you do?  
Hello everybody, how do you do?  
I'm glad you're here today.

If your name's Susan, stand up.  
If your name's Trevor, stand up  
If your name's Joseph, stand up.  
If your name's Bonnie, stand up.

*Variations:* (They love this one)  
If you have brown eyes, stand up.  
If you have green eyes,.....  
If you have blue eyes, .....  
If you have TWO eyes, .....

***"Sometimes I asked for colours being worn (If you have green on,....) or a favourite or I try to rhyme words to their names (If your name's Anna, stand up. If you like bananas, stand up...). They really enjoy it when I throw something silly at them like if your name's broccoli."***

### Start the Day With a Smile

This is the way we start the day  
Start the day, start the day,  
This is the way we start the day,  
So early in the morning.  
First we smile and shake a hand,  
Shake a hand, shake a hand,  
First we smile and shake a hand,  
So early in the morning.  
Then we sit down quietly,  
Quietly, quietly,  
Then we sit down quietly,  
So early in the morning.  
We listen very carefully,  
Carefully, carefully,  
We listen very carefully,  
So early in the morning.



### This Is The Way We Start The Day

*(tune: London Bridge)*

This is the way we start the day  
Start the day, start the day,  
This is the way we start the day,  
In Kindergarten.  
First we smile and shake a hand  
Shake a hand, shake a hand.  
First we smile and shake a hand,  
In Kindergarten.  
Then we sit down quietly  
Quietly, quietly,  
Then we sit down quietly  
In Kindergarten.  
We listen very carefully  
Carefully, carefully,  
We listen very carefully  
In Kindergarten.

### Off to School We Go

*(Tune: A-hunting We Will Go)*

Off to school we go,  
Oh, it's off to school we go,  
We'll take our lunch and ride the bus,  
With everyone we know.  
Off to school we go,  
Oh, it's off to school we go,  
We'll learn our ABC's and more,  
With everyone we know.

### School Days

The alarm clock rings,  
You open your eyes.  
The day begins,  
You have to rise.

Brush your teeth,  
Comb your hair.  
Brand new things  
For you to wear.

Look both ways  
As you cross the street.  
Get on the bus  
And find a seat.

Today is the day  
That school begins  
You can hardly wait  
To meet your friends.

A very different teacher,  
With a strange sounding name.  
I want my last year's teacher -  
Things will never be the same!

### School Starts Today

Pencil, shoes and backpack.  
A big smile - hooray!  
Carrots and juice for my snack,  
School starts today!

### September

September means -

S chool,  
E ffort and  
P lay.  
T rying your best  
E ach hour of the day,  
M aking new friends,  
B eing good as you can,  
E xciting discoveries,  
R eading books with a friend.

### September

S - is for the new school year,  
E - is for early to bed,  
P - is for pencils and paper,  
T - for the teacher who said,  
"E - is for work that is easy",  
M - is for me, hooray!  
B - is for books that are funny,  
E - is for fun *every* day -  
R - reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic!

### September

September means its time again  
For going off to school.  
The days are getting shorter  
And the nights are getting cool.

### First Day

Shiny, sharpened pencils,  
Desks all in a row.  
It's the first day of school and  
I (really) (don't) want to go.

Thirsty flowers in the rain  
Bloom along the misty lane  
Where the friendly yellow bus  
Comes each day to call for us.

The leaves are falling  
One by one.  
Summer's over  
School's begun.



### Me

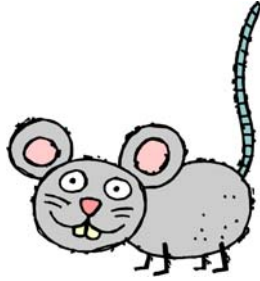
What will happen  
In this school year?  
Grade One is best  
And now it is here!

I will learn to read  
And write and spell.  
I am quite nervous.....  
And there's the bell!

There's a closet for your coat.  
There's a tag with your name.  
There's a chair and place for you.  
I'm so glad you came.

# Classroom Routines

Quiet, quiet  
Quiet as a mouse  
So no one will know  
That we're in the house.



## Lining Up

Every time I get in line,  
I stand so straight and tall;  
I keep my arms down by my side,  
I do not move at all.

My head is facing forward,  
My eyes look straight ahead;  
My lips are closed, my eyes are open,  
Listening to what is said.

## Lining Up Poem

I'm giving myself a great big hug,  
I'm standing straight and tall.  
I'm looking right in front of me.  
I'm ready for the hall.  
(*whisper:* And I'm not talking!)

## We Have Rules

We have rules at \_\_\_\_\_ school,  
Rules when we're in class.  
We use inside voices and walking feet,  
We don't touch the friends we meet.  
And when we're working we stay in our seats,  
'Cause we have rules  
At \_\_\_\_\_ school.

The rule with glue is  
a little dab will do.

Dot dot, does a lot! (glue)

Open them, shut them,  
Give a little (great big) clap!  
Open them, shut them,  
Fold them in your lap.  
Creep them, creep them, creep them,  
Right up to your chin.  
Open up your little mouth  
But don't let them in!  
Creep them, creep them, creep them,  
Right up to the sky.  
Flutter them down and let them lie.  
Open them, shut them,  
Give a little (great big) clap!  
Open them, shut them,  
Fold them in your lap.  
Now we're ready to listen.



## The End of the Day

This is the way we say good-bye,  
Say good-bye, say good-bye.  
This is the way we say good-bye,  
To all our friends at school!  
Good-bye! See you on \_\_\_\_\_!

## See You Later

See you later, alligator,  
Bye-bye, butterfly,  
Give a hug, ladybug,  
Be sweet, parakeet,  
Blow a kiss, goldfish,  
See you soon, racoon,  
Take care, polar bear,  
Out the door, dinosaur!

**Weather Song** (tune: Clementine)

What's the weather?  
What's the weather?  
What's the weather, everyone?  
Is it windy? Is it cloudy? Is there rain?  
Or is there sun?

Today is \_\_\_\_\_,  
All day long,  
All day long.  
Yesterday was \_\_\_\_\_,  
Tomorrow will be \_\_\_\_\_.  
See them go, fast and slow.

Stuff an arm  
into each sleeve,  
put on your coat  
before you leave.  
Zip the zipper  
right to the top,  
and cover your head  
whenever rain drops.

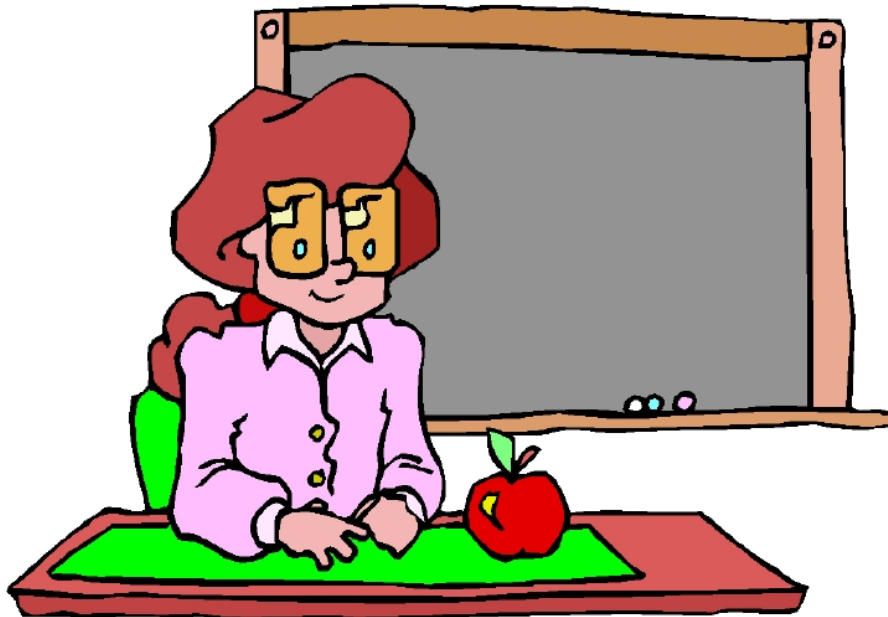
**A Birthday Poem**

How many candles are on your cake?  
How many wishes will you make?  
Will you be six, seven or eight?  
Isn't it dreadfully hard to wait?  
Waiting for birthdays is always the worst!  
If it doesn't come soon I think I'll burst!  
\_\_\_\_\_ red candles are on my cake.  
Today, I'll have \_\_\_\_\_ wishes to make.

**Birthday Poem**

Happy Birthday to you!  
Squashed tomatoes and stew;  
Eggs and bacon for breakfast,  
Happy birthday to you!

*Anonymous*





# You and Me

## Smiles Go 'Round

I like to smile.  
I like to grin.  
I like to be happy-hearted.  
'Cause happy faces, smiles and grins  
Seem to come back where they started!

You cannot give a smile away,  
No matter what you do.  
Whenever you give one away  
It comes right back to you.

## I Am Special

I am special,  
And you are, too.  
There's one of me,  
And there's one of you.

I am special  
Can't you see?  
No one else  
Is just like me.



## School

I like school.  
I read and work and play.  
I like school.  
I learn new things each day.  
I like school.  
I write, I sing and run.  
I like school.  
It's great to have such fun.

I'd rather be a person  
Than an animal in the fall.  
It doesn't seem that  
Animals have much fun at all.  
Some work so hard to store up food,  
While others hibernate,  
Cold and snow and ice are things  
They don't appreciate.  
But I can run and play with friends  
Through fall and winter, too.  
I'd rather be a person having fun.  
Wouldn't you?



## My Promise

Each day I'll do my best,  
And I won't do any less.  
My work will always please me,  
And I won't accept a mess.  
I'll colour very carefully.  
My writing will be neat.  
And I simply won't be happy  
Til my papers are complete  
I'll always do my homework,  
And I'll try on every test.  
And I won't forget my promise--  
To do my very best!

## Please and Thank You

Some special words we need to know  
And use them every day.  
We must say "Please" and "Thank you"  
At school, at home, at play.

### Friends

A friend is a person  
Who wishes you well,  
And keeps all the secrets  
You like to tell.  
Friends share their toys  
And story books, too.  
Friends can be older  
Or younger than you.  
Friends can be real  
Or made up in your mind.  
But, they're always  
Thoughtful and kind.



### I am Special

Hundreds of birds in the sky,  
Hundreds of fish in the sea,  
Hundreds of flowers in the field  
But there's only one of me!

### One or Two

I like myself.  
I like me fine.  
I play by myself,  
A lot of the time.

I like you, too.  
I like you fine.  
We play together  
A lot of the time.

I play alone.  
I play with you.  
Fun can be had  
By one or two!

### To Be Six

I can say the alphabet  
Right through from A to Z.  
And print my name, so nice and neat-  
Do you want to see?  
I can count  
By ones and twos,  
Ride a bike  
And tie my shoes.  
It's super duper  
To be six-  
So tall and smart  
And full of tricks!

### I'm Very Happy to be Me

\_\_\_\_\_ is my hair,  
\_\_\_\_\_ are my eyes.  
I'm \_\_\_\_\_ years old,  
I'm just the right size.  
My name is \_\_\_\_\_  
And as you can see,  
I'm very happy to be me!

### Growing Tall

The yellow sunflower grows so high.  
It almost seems to touch the sky.  
Mother says I'm growing, too.  
Sunflower, will I be as big as you?



# Learning Things

## Apple Pie

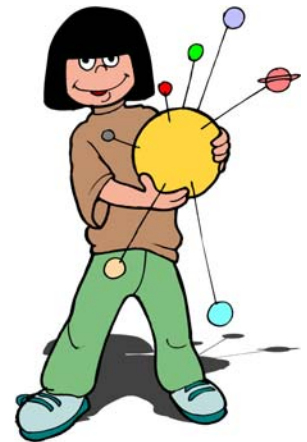
A was an apple-pie,  
B bit it, C cut it, D dipped it,  
E enjoyed it, F fought for it,  
G got it, H hoped for it,  
I inquired about it,  
J jumped for it, K kept it,  
L longed for it, M missed it,  
N nodded at it, O opened it,  
P peeped in it, Q quartered it,  
R ran for it, S sat on it, T took it,  
U upset it, V viewed it, W wanted it,  
X examined it, Y yearned for it,  
And Z put it in his pocket and said:  
'Well Done!'

## A Number Poem

O-n-e, one  
We have just begun.  
T-w-o, two  
Blue glue in my shoe.  
T-h-r-e-e, three  
A banjo on my knee.  
F-o-u-r, four  
Knock, knock on my door.  
F-i-v-e, five  
Bees in a hive.  
S-i-x, six  
Let's do tricks.  
S-e-v-e-n, seven  
Going up into heaven.  
E-i-g-h-t, eight  
Rhode Island is our state.  
N-i-n-e, nine  
Feeling mighty fine!  
T-e-n, ten  
Let's count again!  
Z-e-r-o, zero  
You are my hero!

## ABC Chant

A - B - CDE (Teacher)  
A - B - CDE (Students)  
Grade One is where I want to be. (Teacher)  
Grade One is where I want to be.  
(Students)  
F - G - HIJ  
Learning to read and write each day.  
K - L - MNO  
Many boys and girls we know  
P - Q - RST  
Sharing books with you and me.  
U - V - WXY  
Now it's time to say good-bye  
Z - Z - ZZZ  
Now the letters are in my head.



Bat and baseball  
Bat and baseball  
Make a b,  
Make a b.  
Bat and baseball  
Bat and baseball  
Make a b,  
Make a b.

Drum and drumstick  
Drum and drumstick  
Make a d,  
Make a d.  
Drum and drumstick  
Drum and drumstick  
Make a d,  
Make a d.

### Rules Rap

*(lightly slap your knees)*

Rules can be helpful,  
Rules can be good.  
They help us behave,  
The way we should.  
We follow the rules,  
And we don't do wrong.  
The world's a happier place  
When we all get along.

### Days of the Week

*To the Adam's Family tune...*

Days of the week (snap snap)  
Days of the week (snap snap)  
Days of the week  
Days of the week  
Days of the week (snap snap)

There's Sunday and there's Monday  
There's Tuesday and there's Wednesday  
There's Thursday and there's Friday  
And then there's Saturday!

Days of the week (snap snap)  
Days of the week (snap snap)  
Days of the week  
Days of the week  
Days of the week (snap snap)

Red, red, red, touch your head.  
Blue, blue, blue, tie your shoe.  
Brown, brown, brown, touch the ground.  
White, white, white, take a bite.  
Black, black, black, touch your back.  
Purple, purple, purple, draw a circle.  
Pink, pink, pink, give a wink.  
Gray, gray, gray, shout hurray!

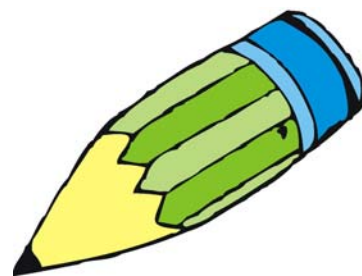
### School Time

A B C D E F G  
School time, learning time,  
For you and me.

H I J K L M N O P,  
Recess time, book time,  
For you and me.

Q R S T U V,  
Gym time, sing time,  
For you and me.

X, X and Y and Z  
I'll really be tired  
When I go to bed.  
sshhh.....



### Pencil Magic

I like a yellow pencil,  
A shiny yellow pencil  
With a rub-away eraser  
And a point all sharply black.  
I can draw all kinds of pictures  
Of animals, things, and people -  
With a shiny yellow pencil  
There isn't a thing I lack!  
If I want a brand new spaceship  
Or a secret house in a treetop  
Or a friendly bear to play with  
Or eleven ducks on a pond,  
I've only to use my pencil  
And there they are on the paper-  
Oh, a shiny yellow pencil  
Is a magical fairy wand!

# In The Autumn

## Down! Down!

Down, down!  
Yellow and brown  
The leaves are falling  
Over the town.

## A Little Elf

A little elf  
Sat in a tree  
Painting leaves  
To throw at me.

Leaves of yellow  
And leaves of red  
Came tumbling down  
About my head.

Cornflake leaves  
Upon the trees -  
Are they a breakfast  
For the breeze?  
*(Make a cornflake collage.)*



The sunflower children  
Nod to the sun....  
Summer is over,  
Fall has begun!

The leaves are falling  
One by one.  
Summer's over  
School's begun.

## September

Off to school  
We go together  
In September's  
Sunny weather.

## The Leaves

The leaves are falling  
From the trees  
Yellow, brown, and red.  
They patter softly  
Like the rain~  
One landed on my head!

## I Like Fall

Crunchy leaves  
Red and brown  
Autumn colours  
In my town.

Winter is cold.  
Summer is hot.  
Spring is wet  
And Fall is not.

## I Like Fall

Crunchy leaves  
Red and brown  
Autumn colours  
In my town.

## Fall

From September to December  
What's the season?  
Fall!  
Red leaves start to  
Fall!  
Brown leaves start to  
Fall!  
Gold leaves start to  
Fall!  
Orange leaves start to  
Fall!  
Yellow leaves start to  
Fall!  
After all, it's  
Fall!



## The Leaves

The leaves are falling  
From the trees  
Yellow, brown, and red.  
They patter softly  
Like the rain~  
One landed on my head!

## The School Bus

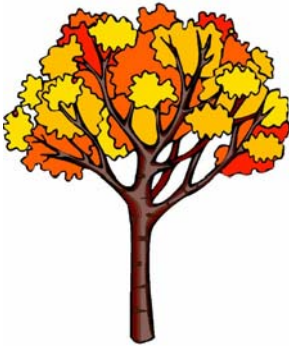
Summer is over  
Leaves are brown  
The school bus goes  
All over town

The kids are waiting  
In the sun  
They hop on the bus  
Ready for fun!

## September

September is a time  
Of beginning for all  
Beginning of school  
Beginning of fall.

The month is October,  
With leaves all around.  
All red and all yellow,  
All orange and all brown.



## September Chant

Sep--tem--b-e-r X , (clap)  
Sep--tem--b-e-r- X,  
Home from school, rake the  
leaves,  
Allergies can make you sneeze!  
Ah-Choo, Ah-Choo, Ah-choo,  
Bless You,  
Thirty Days X X,  
Thirty Nights X X  
Thirty Days X X,  
Thirty Nights X X  
Sep- tem- b- e- r- X ,  
Sep- tem- b-e-r---X  
I like September!!

October leaves are lovely  
They rustle when I run  
Sometimes I make a heap  
And jump in them for fun.

## October Chant

Oc - to - b-e-r X,  
Oc - to - b-e-r X  
(clap on the X)  
Thanksgiving, Halloween,  
Glowing pumpkins can be seen.  
Trick, Trick, Trick-or-Treat,  
Give me something good to  
eat.  
The 31st XX is Hallowe'en XX.  
The 31st XX is Hallowe'en XX.  
I can't wait!

## Good Company

When other flowers  
Have gone away,  
The goldenrod  
And asters stay.

The asters with  
Their purple blooms,  
The goldenrod  
In yellow plumes

Linger, though,  
The others flee  
And keep  
October company.

## October

October's the month  
When the smallest breeze  
Gives us a shower  
Of autumn leaves.  
Bonfires and pumpkins,  
Leaves sailing down -  
October is red  
And golden and brown.



## October

October is the month  
When leaves begin to fall,  
When pumpkins ripen in the  
fields  
And witches come to call.

## Rain of Leaves

It's raining big,  
It's raining small,  
It's raining autumn leaves  
In fall.  
It's raining gold  
And red and brown  
As autumn leaves  
Come raining down.  
It's raining everywhere I look  
It's raining bookmarks  
On my book.

## What Falls In The Fall?

In the fall  
Do you fall out of bed?  
Do you land on your head?  
In the fall  
Do houses fall down?  
And buildings and butterflies  
All over town?  
Something must fall  
In the fall, if you please,  
Oh, yes. The leaves fall.  
They fall from the trees.

Something told the wild geese  
It was time to go.  
Though the fields lay golden  
Something whispered, "Snow".

Something told the wild geese  
It was time to fly.  
Summer sun was on their wings,  
Winter in their cry.



The summer is over  
The trees are all bare.  
There is mist in the garden  
And frost in the air.  
The meadows are empty,  
The apples are picked.  
All over my street  
There are leaves to be kicked!

I love the month of September,  
The nights are dry and cool.  
The days are warm and sunny  
And we all go back to school!

### October

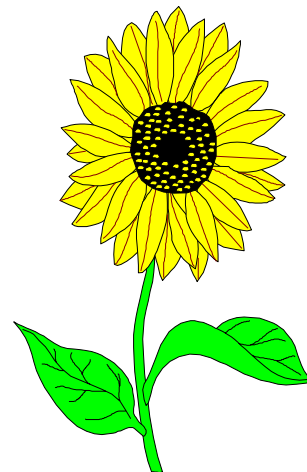
Leaves are glowing in the air  
Leaves are blowing everywhere.  
We go down the road to see  
Apples dancing on a tree.

We say hello to Autumn leaves  
New teachers and the school.  
We say good-bye to vacation time  
And swimming in the pool.  
We say hello to shorter days  
And longer, darker nights.  
We say good-bye to family trips  
And seeing all the sights.

October is  
A month of change,  
It really does  
Seem very strange.  
Suddenly  
The trees are bare,  
And signs of frost  
Are in the air.

### September

A road like brown ribbon  
A sky that is blue  
A forest of green  
With that sky peeping through.  
Asters, deep purple,  
A grasshopper's call,  
Today it is summer,  
Tomorrow is fall.



### October Time

October time is pumpkin time.  
The nicest time of year,  
When all the pumpkins light their eyes  
And grin from ear to ear.



### Autumn Wind

When autumn wind goes running  
It does some magic things.  
It gives the shadows dancing shoes,  
It gives the bright leaves wings -  
When autumn wind goes running.

It curls the bonfire's tail of smoke  
And shares a little whispered joke  
With cornstalks who delight to prattle,  
It turns a seed pod into a rattle -  
When autumn wind goes running.

Red leaves and yellow leaves  
Orange leaves and brown,  
Leaves are dancing everywhere  
Happily dancing down.

### Autumn Leaves

Leaves don't just fall -- they rustle.  
When the cool wind blows, they hustle.  
Leaves don't just fall -- they whirl.  
When the cool winds blows, they twirl.  
Leaves don't just fall -- they prance.  
They pick themselves up and  
dance, dance, dance!

### Five Little Leaves

Five little leaves so bright and gay  
Were dancing about on a tree one day  
The wind came blowing through the town  
Whoooooo  
Five little leaves came tumbling down  
Five, four, three, two, one.

### I Love Fall

I love fall! Fall is exciting.  
It's apples and cider.  
It's an airborne spider.  
It's pumpkins in bins.  
It's burrs on dog's chins.  
It's wind blowing leaves.  
It's chilly red knees.  
It's nuts on the ground.  
It's a crisp dry sound.  
It's green leaves turning  
And the smell of them burning.  
It's clouds in the sky.  
It's fall. That's why.....  
I love fall.

### A September Rainbow

In September  
Apples are red.  
Leaves of yellow  
Fall on my head.  
The grass is brown,  
The sky is blue,  
Flowers of purple,  
And orange squash, too.  
Some trees have leaves  
That still are green  
A rainbow of colour  
Can be seen!



I like to shuffle on my way,  
Through piles of leaves on an Autumn day.  
The leaves aren't leaves at all to me.  
They are cornflakes falling from the tree!

### Autumn Bird Song

Over the housetops,  
Over the trees,  
Winging their way  
In a stiff fall breeze.

A flock of birds  
Is flying along  
Southward, for winter,  
Singing a song.

Singing a song  
They all like to sing,  
"We'll see you again  
When it's spring, spring, spring."

"Come, little leaves," said the wind one day,  
"Come o'er the meadows with me and play:  
Put on your dresses of red and gold -  
For summer is gone and the days grow cold."

Leaves in the autumn came tumbling down,  
Scarlet and yellow, russet and brown,  
Leaves in the garden were swept in a heap,  
Trees were undressing ready for sleep.

### Dancing Leaves

Red leaves and yellow leaves  
Orange leaves and brown  
Leaves are dancing everywhere  
Happily dancing down

### The Scarecrow

The scarecrow stands  
With hanging hands,  
Beside the farmer's stile.  
He scares the jay and crow away.  
With just a painted smile.



### The Wind

The wind can never quite decide  
Exactly what to do  
With all the leaves that dance about  
When summer months are through.  
I've seen it twist and twirl each leaf  
Into a pile and then  
Turn right around and fling them all  
About the yard again.

### Scarecrows

Scarecrows have a funny job,  
In cornfields wild with birds,  
They chase and shoo to protect the crops  
Without a single word.

The scarecrow must pretend all day.  
He is a mighty force  
Do you suppose when nightfall comes  
He snacks on corn? Of course!

### October

Leaves are glowing in the air.  
Leaves are blowing everywhere.  
We go down the road to see  
Apples dancing on a tree.

## Leaves

Little leaves, little leaves,  
High up in the trees,  
Little leaves, little leaves,  
Swinging in the breeze.  
Autumn comes along  
And they change from red to brown  
Winter comes along.  
And they flutter to  
the ground.



Mr. Scarecrow, Mr. Scarecrow,  
You can't scare me  
Mr. Scarecrow, Mr. Scarecrow,  
I'm your friend can't you see  
I'll clap my hands and turnaround  
if you would like to walk  
Mr. Scarecrow, Mr. Scarecrow,  
I wish that you could talk.

I'd really like to take a walk  
and rest my arms you know  
You see it's very very hard  
to scare away the crows.  
I think I'd like to take a break  
and have a little rest  
Then you can play at scarecrow,  
here's my hat and here's my vest.

*This can be done as a circle game. One child is the scarecrow and stands with a hat and vest. The rest chant the poem. The scarecrow must turnaround etc. as the song says. When you get to the end of verse 2, they must give the hat and*

## The Birds

Good-bye, little birds, good-bye!  
I see you swiftly fly  
Away to the south, where the sky is blue  
And flowers and sunshine wait for you.  
Good-bye, little birds, good-bye!

## In thFall (sing to "She'll Be Coming Round the Mountain")

When the leaves are red and yellow in the fall  
(clap, clap)  
When the leaves are red and yellow in the fall  
(clap, clap)  
When the leaves are red and yellow, then the  
apples taste so mellow  
When the leaves are red and yellow in the fall  
(clap, clap)

Oh, the air is crisp and colder in the fall  
(brr, brr)  
Oh, the air is crisp and colder in the fall  
(brr, brr)  
Oh, the air is crisp and colder and the wind  
is getting bolder  
Oh, the air is crisp and colder in the fall  
(brr, brr)

Thirsty flowers in the rain  
Bloom along the misty lane  
Where the friendly yellow bus  
Comes each day to call for us.

## October Leaves

October leaves are lovely  
They rustle when I run.  
Sometimes I make a heap  
And jump in them for fun!

### The Scarecrow

Five fat blackbirds,           *(hold up 5 fingers)*  
Sitting in the straw.

Laughing at the scarecrow.           *(Use thumb and fingers for the bird's beak.)*  
CAW! CAW! CAW!

Five fat blackbirds,           *(Scratch the ground.)*  
Eating all the corn.

Silly old birds,                   *(Shake your finger)*  
It's going to storm.           *(Wiggle your fingers)*

Poor sad scarecrow                   *(Look sad)*  
Sitting on a fence.           *(Rest your right elbow on your left arm)*  
"Boo!" yelled the scarecrow.   *(Clap your hands)*  
Away they went!               *(Hide your hands behind your back.)*

### Autumn Leaves

Leaves don't just fall - they rustle.  
When the cool wind blows, they hustle.  
Leaves don't just fall - they whirl.  
When the cool winds blows, they twirl.  
Leaves don't just fall - they prance.  
They pick themselves up and dance, dance, dance!



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