

LEAF ZOMBIES

Objective: Students will learn about the difference between different kinds of plants based on their annual and seasonal cycles.

Topics & Key Words for Discussion:

zombie: a person looking like or acting like the so-called walking dead

deciduous: trees/plants that lose their leaves for part of the year.

evergreen: trees/plants that stay green year round.

Materials: Leaves (lots of colorful leaves), Acrylic paint in trays, Paint brushes, cups of water, drawing paper (to place leaves while they dry).

Opening Activity: Ask students why some tree leaves become brown and fall off in the autumn, but other trees keep their green leaves all year long. Teach them the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees. In a way, deciduous trees are like zombies in the winter and then they come back alive in the spring! Then, take your students outside for a leaf gathering mission!

Core Activity: Have students choose a few different leaves to make their own 'leaf zombie army'. Clean the leaves off with a tissue or paper towel.

Paint the black sections of the zombie first. Add dark around the eyes, the dark in the mouth, any stitches, wrinkles and a nose. It's really up to you if you make your kids wait for it to dry or not. Next, paint on the white eyeballs and teeth. Add the finishing touches to your leaf zombie by painting snot coming out of the nose, or add green to teeth to make them look rotten. You can also add red to make the eyes look blood shot. So creepy!

Reflection: As students help clean up, invite them to pretend to walk like zombies, but remind them that as soon as they walk OUT the DOOR, they are human again!

