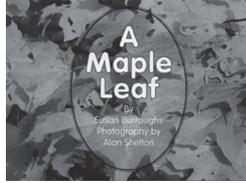


A MAPLE LEAF

By – Susan Burroughs
Photography by – Alan Shelton
Set 1 – 42 words

Building Anticipation – Setting the Context

Show the children a collection of leaves. Talk about the differences in shape, size, color, and texture. Discuss how leaves change color from pale green in early spring to orange, red, and brown in the fall. Display a maple leaf and discuss its shape.



Introduce the book and guide the children through a book-walk. Before they start reading, focus the children's attention on strategies they can use when they come to an unknown word.

Discussion – Book Talk

What reading strategy did you use when you came to a difficult word?

What colors did we read about in the book? Why do you think the maple leaf was chosen to be on Canada's flag?

Creative Response – Independent Practice

Children can:

- think of other things that are green, yellow, brown and orange. Use the reproducible master to complete the sentences and illustrate.
- make a picture by placing paper over leaves and rubbing gently with wax crayons. Use the colors named in the book. Write the name of the color next to each leaf.
- look up the flags of the United States and Canada, and other familiar countries (e.g., the children's country of origin, where their grandparents live, where they have been on vacation).
- discuss the pictures and colors used on flags. Make paper dolls and give each doll a flag. Write captions such as: I am from _____. This is my flag.

Read-Aloud Connections

One Is Canada by Maxine Trottier. HarperCollins Canada, 1999.

- A counting book with a distinctively Canadian theme.
- Oh Canada!* by Ted Harrison. Kids Can Press, 1992.
- The national anthem illustrated with references to the provinces and territories.

Learning About Language - Focused Teaching

High Frequency Words	Here, is, a, on	Practice writing these words on an erasable board
Letters and Letter Clusters	<i>H</i> — Here <i>m</i> — maple	Brainstorm to create a list of words that begin with <i>m</i> .
Rhymes and Word Families	tree, see, bee red, bed, fed	

Reproducible Master - A Maple Leaf

Finish the sentences and illustrate things that are green, yellow, brown and orange.

Here is a green _____.

Here is a yellow _____.

Here is a brown _____.

Here is an orange _____.

Here is a red maple leaf.