Seasonal Verses and Movement Games

―Betty Jones

Five Little Apple Leaves
Five little leaves on an apple tree
Danced and pranced so merrily,
One leaf floated away from the rest
Making its home in a wee bird’s nest.
Four little leaves in the apple tree,
Thought, “Oh where could one leaf be?”
Light Brother Breeze blew a kiss.
Two little leaves flew off in bliss.
Two little leaves danced together
On the apple tree in stormy weather
Big Brother Wind, he blew so hard
Two little leaves flew down in my yard!

Hold one hand, five fingers spread
Wiggle five fingers while swaying
Thumb floats downward
Cup other hand as nest for leaf
Hold up hand, four fingers up
Tap forehead with four fingers
Other hand to lips, blow a kiss
Two fingers leave forehead, float away
Hold up hand, two fingers wiggle
Two fingers wiggle and sway
Other hand surround lips and blow
Last two fingers fall into lap

Autumn Leaves
The trees are saying “Goodbye” to their leaves
As they flutter and fly and float in the breeze,
All golden, orange, and red, they sink softly off to bed,
On Mother Earth’s breast rests each leafy head.

Stretch out arms and wave goodbye
Flutter fingers
Slowly bring fluttering fingers down to floor
Make sleeping gesture with palms together; give a big, restful sigh

The Living Garden
Little ants run to and fro, in and out the earth they go,
Busy, busy, never still, are the ants in their anthill.
Overhead the spider weaves its shining web among the trees,
And makes its thread so fine to snare unwary creatures, so beware!
Slowly, silently goes the snail, and leaves behind its gooey trail,
As it makes its slimy way whether it be night or day.
The buzzing bees sip here and there as fine flowers their nectar share,
Making honey, oh so sweet, those busy bees a working fleet.
Fuzzy caterpillar on this track, up and down goes his back
As he curls into a cocoon, who would guess that he’d be soon
The beautiful, winging butterfly, fluttering joyfully in the sky
And like a flower, her colors bright, fade into the darkest night.

In a circle, children act out the garden creatures as described. Ants scuttle around; spiders climb by inching hands upward with fingertips touching; snails slide slowly around the circle, bent over with their fists on their backs; bees quickly flutter their hands; caterpillars put their hands and feet on the floor, stretch out their bodies, and slowly inch their feet towards their hands; butterflies dance lightly in the circle.