



## Leaf Drop Reaction Time Game

Materials: 6" sections of lettuce leaves;

Ever thought about the time it takes to catch a falling leaf? With the help of a friend, anyone can find out.

Activity:

Have a student hold a 6" piece of lettuce leaf between another student's thumb and forefingers. Without warning, have the student holding the leaf drop it between the student's two fingers . . . hopefully catching it before it hits the floor. Notice where on the leaf it's caught. The sooner it's caught, the faster the student's reaction time. Try it several times to see reaction time improves. Switch partners and try it again.

Guiding questions:

Why do you think it takes time for your fingers to react when your eyes see the leaf starting to fall?  
Can you think of a reason why the reaction time might be different for an adult and a child?  
Can one practice enough to improve his/her reaction time?