

SEASONAL RESOURCE SHEET

Spring is on its way—snow is melting; sunlight is casting down playful shadows, and nature is awakening. Fresh leaves and vibrant flowers begin to bloom, filling the air with color and fragrance. During this season, the activities we choose often reflect children’s experiences and interactions with the natural world around them.



Outdoor Explorations: Spend time outdoors and immerse yourself in nature.



Observe the Children Intently:

- What captures their curiosity?
- What ideas and knowledge are they developing/building as they explore?
- Bring along a camera to capture and document their discoveries as they search for shadows on the ground, walls, playground, and beyond.
- Offer small baskets so children can collect natural treasures and to bring their finds back to the center for further exploration.



Bring the Outside In:

Invite children to share the items they collected by exploring them on the science table. Notice the conversations that emerge—what ideas and interests do they express?

Use these insights to inspire future activities. If you have a projector or flashlights, bring them out so children can experiment with their collected items and create shadow experiences indoors as well.

CONTINUE YOUR LEARNING WITH THE EARLY LEARNING FRAMEWORK:

Engaging with Others, Materials and the World

Pathway: Time for Engagement

1. What opportunities do children have to explore ideas and questions over days, weeks, or months?
2. Is it important for children to have space to store projects or inquiries so they can be revisited? (Early Learning Framework, pg 78)
3. How can we as educators sustain/foster their curiosity over time?



By addressing these questions, we foster a dynamic learning environment that nurtures children’s curiosity and promotes a lifelong love of discovery.

Create Great Stories!

During seasonal activities and holidays, it's common for everyone to seek the same resources at the same time. By creating your own circle time materials ahead of these high-demand periods, you'll save time and avoid frustration. Plus, these resources will become a valuable part of your collection for years to come.

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:

This is a super simple felt set to make. Having the letters on the felt board promotes the recognition of letters and builds an understanding of the link between the name of the letter and what the letter looks like. Make each raindrop about 9cm high (3.5 inches) and add precut letters or use fabric paint.

COUNTING RHYME: "Five Spring Flowers"

Five Spring flowers all in a row.
The first one said, "We need rain to grow!"
The second one said, "Oh MY, we need water!"
The third one said, "Yes, it's getting hotter!"
The fourth one said, "I see clouds up in the sky!"
The fifth one said, "I wonder why?"
Then BOOM went the thunder and ZAP went the lightning! (clap on "BOOM")
That springtime storm was really frightening! But the flowers weren't worried - no, no, no!
The rain helped them to grow, grow, grow! (raise baby's arms on "grow...")



Tune: BINGO

There was a day when we got wet
And Rainy was the weather.
R-A-I-N-Y (x3)
And Rainy was the weather.



This Rhyme goes well with the book *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert available in our library: **11582 Planting a Rainbow** and **33149 Color and Light Exploration**. Pairing literature with hands-on activities also enriches the learning experience, making it both educational and fun for young explorers.

Sophie, a CCRR Consultant, enjoys using felts in storytime for singing, storytelling, counting, and engaging kids, who find them entertaining. For those hesitant to use felts, she recommends her post "New to Storytime: Using Felt Stories" for helpful tips.

EARLY LEARNING LENDING LIBRARY SPRING FINDS!



Discover Spring 36928



33859 Spring Effects



48170 Exploring Spring



49863 Lucky Felts

Aknowledgements:

<https://www.treehugger.com/why-finlands-forest-schools-are-great-kids-4867933>

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/early-learning/teach/earlylearning/early_learning_framework.pdf

<https://libraryvillage.blogspot.com/2015/03/flannel-friday-easter-and-spring.html>

<https://jbrary.com/new-to-storytime-using-felt-stories/>

<https://jbrary.com/making-felt-stories-with-flannel-board-fun-a-giveaway/>