

Suggested Additions to Learning Areas When Planning To Integrate “Spring” Throughout the Classroom

Dramatic Play

- Lightweight clothing for men and women
- Hats
- Spring Shoes
- Straw or spring purses
- Baskets
- Cellophane grass
- Ribbon of various colors
- Plastic eggs
- Flowers
- Spring tablecloth/napkins/décor
- Gardening tools and clothes

Sensory Experiences

- Dirt and real earthworms with small plastic trowels to use when digging for the worms
- Cellophane grass and plastic eggs and/or plastic insects
- Eggshells (plain or dyed)

Science Area

- Magnifying glasses
- Real insects or slides of preserved insects
- Feathers
- Seeds of all kinds - purchased and saved from foods eaten at home and/or school
- Seed packets
- Clear container of dirt filled with earthworms (Fill container with dirt, dampen with water, pour in worms, cover sides and top with black paper so no light can penetrate. Wait a few days and then remove paper. The worms will have tunneled next to the sides of the container. Once the light reaches the worms, they will begin to dig in other areas to escape it.)
- Tadpoles from a creek, or order a Grow a Frog kit
- Caterpillars caught by teachers or parents, or order a Butterfly Garden kit
- Sound Match game using plastic eggs (2 eggs contain a piece of pasta, 2 eggs contain a rock, 2 eggs contain a penny, etc. Child shakes an egg and tries to find the match by shaking the other eggs. The game is self-checking since the eggs can be opened to see if the guess was correct.)

Manipulative Area

- Plastic eggs in small, medium, and large to sort using tongs
- Plastic eggs and egg carton match. Place a colored dot in the bottom of each section of an egg carton. The child places the plastic egg that is the same color as the dot into the section.
- Sort small, medium and large pompoms using a strawberry huller
- Sort pompoms by color
- Sort plastic eggs by color, size
- Sort large plastic pastel colored beads into egg cartons using strawberry hullers or tongs

Book Area

- Seed catalogues
- Plant and flower catalogues
- Books about spring, flowers, insects, caterpillars, etc.

Block Area

- Barn
- Farm animals
- Plastic insects
- Plastic gardening tools
- Hats
- Gardening gloves
- Cellophane grass
- Plastic Eggs

Art Area

- Feathers to use in a collage and/or to paint with instead of using a paint brush
- Pompoms
- Wiggle Eyes
- Cellophane Grass
- Ribbon
- Seeds
- Pastel color paints
- Pastel color chalk
- Eggshells (plain and dyed)
- Felt

Writing Area

- Pastel chalk
- Small chalkboards
- Stamp pads
- Stamps, stickers, and/or stencils of flowers, umbrellas, rabbits, chickens, ducks, cows, sheep, pigs, children, baskets, raindrops, clouds, etc.
- Spring Word Cards with pictures and words
- Spring writing pads and pencils

Classroom Display

- Sign that says Welcome Spring
- Drawings and other items representing spring
- Children's paintings using pastel colors
- Chart story about Signs of Spring
- Pictures of photos depicting spring

