

Explora-Center

Materials

Signs-of-spring photographs taken at or near the school
Books about spring
Bulbs
Plants grown from bulbs
Spring leaves from area plants
Magnifying glass

Is It Spring Yet?

Place all materials in the learning center. Encourage children to look at the books about spring, to view the photographs, to examine the bulbs and spring flowers, and to use magnifying glasses to carefully study the spring leaves. Ask children to think about how signs of spring differ from signs of fall and signs of winter.



Lesson Time: Now It's Spring

Get Ready!

After all have had ample opportunity to study the materials and books in the Explora-Center, call everyone together. Introduce the song "Springtime's Here." After singing, ask children to tell characteristics of spring described in this song.

Mini-Lesson

Read "Springtime's Here" with the children and point to the illustration for each sign of spring. Encourage children to describe their own experiences with bees, flowers, rain, and rainbows. Then, select and read a book about spring. Compare children's own experiences shared earlier with those described in the book.

Guided Visualization

Ask children to close their eyes and visualize a spring scene. What does the sky look like? Is it raining? How does the air feel? Is it warmer now than it was in winter? How do the trees look? The grass? What are the animals in your imagined scene doing? Now, have children open their eyes.

Extension:

Distribute children's Learning Logs, add a blank page, and have children draw the spring scenes they visualized.