

BC SRC 2017: Walk on the Wild Side!
Primary Program, Theme 3: Spot Nature's Magic
Prepared by: Anna Loster, FVRL

Name Tags: Butterfly and Tree shapes

WELCOME ACTIVITY

Print out pictures of animals / plants / insects (eg: animals that hibernate, caterpillar, butterfly, plants at different stages of development), or depictions of seasonal change. Tape or pin to each participant's back. Give children about 5 minutes to guess what they have printed on their backs by going around and asking each other questions. When the time is up, gather the kids together and have them tell the group what they found. As you go around the group, talk about things in nature that they think are magical. Prompt them with ideas about the changing seasons, or any plants/animals/insects that they think change throughout the year or during their lifecycle.

STORY

Velma Gratch & the Way Cool Butterfly by Alan Madison

ACTIVITY

Plant a Garden

During this activity, children can plant their own garden to take home and watch it grow. Cover tables with plastic or disposable table cloths. Also, cover the floor area with plastic sheets. Set up stations for each participant with an egg carton and a plastic spoon. Using plastic buckets, fill them with soil and place them around the table. A variety of seed packets (both vegetable and flower seeds) can be purchased at a local garden shop, Walmart, Canadian Tire, or even local grocery stores. Allow the children to pick what they would like to grow. Have them fill each spot in their egg carton half full with soil. Then they can drop one seed into each spot, and top with soil. Once they have finished, program host / helpers can come around and help the kids water their seeds. Using the popsicle sticks as labels, children can mark down what plants they planted and decorate the popsicle sticks with the colored markers.

Supplies:

Styrofoam egg cartons
Bag of soil
Several small plastic buckets
Variety of seed packets
Plastic spoons
Popsicle sticks
Colored markers
Watering can / jug for water
Disposable Table Cloths
Large plastic sheets (for covering the floor)

GAME

Nature's Bingo

Play bingo using pictures of nature. You can customize and print off free bingo cards online using this link: <http://www.dltk-cards.com/bingo/> Instructions for how to play are also available on this site. Choose either a 3x3, 4x4, or 5x5 bingo card and select either the spring theme or earth day theme. You can also choose the blank theme and create your own. Make sure to print off both bingo cards for the kids and a callout sheet for yourself. You can play with bingo dabbers (dollar stores sometimes carry these) or you can use colored markers.

STORY

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl (pick an excerpt to read-aloud)

CLOSING

Song: The Green Grass Grew All Around

(Lyrics: <http://www.songsforteaching.com/folk/thegreengrassgrewallaround2k.php>)

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Fiction:

Winter's Coming: A Story of Seasonal Change by Jan Thornhill

Winter is the Warmest Season by Lauren Stringer

Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn by Kenard Pak

Tap the Magic Tree by Christie Matheson

Over and Under the Snow by Kate Messner

Up, Down, and Around by Katherine Ayres

Non-Fiction:

Handle With Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey by Loree Griffin Burns

Secrets of the Seasons: Orbiting the Sun in our Backyard by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld

Hide and Seek Science: Animal Camouflage by Emma Stevenson

A Seed is Sleepy by Dianna Hutts Aston

Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert

Outdoor Crafts: Lots of Fun Things to Make and do Outside (DK Publishing)