



Wow! Where has this school year gone? Seems like we were just talking about leaves and pumpkins and now we are seeing the flowers and birds here in Atlanta....delightful!

I hope you have had a wonderful year! It has been a treat to meet so many of you at conferences and also visit with your children.

Additionally, I have had some ask me to be sure and contact them to share a children's program, if I am in their area...this is fun when we take family trips and I can stop by to visit with the children too!

Let me know if you are interested! Springtime is a wonderful time to talk about all of the colors that are bursting out around us in the flowers, grass, and birds. The children are excited to hear stories about things you do with your families at home!

Picnics...working in the yard...washing your car...etc!

I want to encourage you to order some lovely puppets from M S CREATIONS...they have some precious bird and insect puppets that work so nicely with the songs and fingerplays I do! I have so many of their things and the children love them!

Their web page is: www.m-s-creations.com
888-352-8367

Please mention my name, when ordering or simply ask for a catalogue... as I tell them I recommend their things!

(Tune: the Farmer in the Dell)

The eggs are in the nest, the eggs are in the nest...
They're small and round with flecks of brown...
The eggs are in the nest!

The Mom sits on the eggs, the Mom sits on the eggs...
Her wait is long, she sings a song..
Tweet, tweet, tweet,
tweet....tweet, tweet!

The Daddy brings a worm...the Daddy brings a worm!
She wishes he would take a turn...the Daddy brings a worm!

The eggs begin to crack, the eggs begin to crack...
The babies hop out just like that...
A new family is born!



School's out...let's shout!
Summertime is here!
Baseball, swimming all our friends are near!
Hot dogs, Popsicles...yummy, yummy, yum!
June July and August...we'll have so much fun!



ENJOY THIS QUICK WIGGLE ACTIVITY THAT CAN GO FASTER AND FASTER!

(Tune: If you're happy and you know it!)
If you've ever seen a bunny, touch your nose!
(touch nose)

Tap your shoulders, tap your knees and tap your toes!
(tap those parts)

Turn around and count to three... 1...2...3... (turn and count)

Point your rabbit ears at me!
(arms out to the front)

If you've ever seen a bunny touch your nose!

For spring, you could substitute, robin, flower, kite...etc!

I kick the speed up and try to make it faster each time!



Here are a couple of easy transition activities that can be used to get the children to focus and also move from a standing up to sitting down position...

HOP LIKE A BUNNY...

(SHOW EARS)

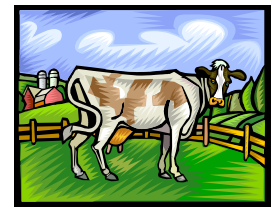
BUZZ LIKE A BEE....

(SHOW ANTENNAE)

MOO LIKE A COW...

(MOO)

AND SIT DOWN WITH ME!





IT'S A LOVELY SPRINGTIME DAY!
I WANT TO GO OUT AND PLAY!
I ZIP UP MY JACKET...
I TIE MY SHOES ...
AND I AM ON MY WAY!
(Hickory Dickory Dock)



Ask your children to close their eyes and think about some things they might like to do on a springtime day!

While their eyes are closed, set out 3 or 4 hula hoops and in the center...place pictures of various activities:

- Flying a kite
- Picnics
- Baseball
- Planting Flowers
- Swinging
- Slides

Ask each child to join the hula hoop that shows what they might want to do today!
This is easy to do right before you leave for the day!
Perhaps you might make a class book!

I like to _____
on a spring time day!



A FROG ON A LOG
(SHOW FROG PICTURE OR PUPPET)
HEARD A BARKING DOG
(SHOW DOG PICTURE OR PUPPET)
...BEING CHASED BY A BUZZING BUMBLEBEE!
(SHOW BEE PICTURE OR PUPPET)
SAID THE FROG TO THE DOG...COME OVER TO THE LOG...AND SIT RIGHT NEXT TO ME!
IF THE BEE COMES BY, WE'RE SO NEAR THE WATER...THAT WE CAN JUMP RIGHT IN!!
AND THE BEE WON'T BOTHER US BECAUSE...HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO _____ (SWIM!)

This is neat for context clues...the children almost ALWAYS know the last word!



I saw a FAMILY CIRCUS cartoon with the little girl rushing into the house and bursting out:
HURRY UP MOMMY...LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I LEARNED AT SCHOOL TODAY BEFORE I FORGET!

This tends to happen and then the parents tell us: "what do you do all day...the kids say...NOTHING!"

I used to laugh at this.
"yes, we just sat quietly on the rug for hours...hahaha!"

Perhaps you may want to have a brief circle time wrap up and ask the children to remember what things they have done at school to share with their families when they get home.

- What book did we read?
- Who was absent today?
- What songs did we sing?
- What were our specials: P.E. ART MUSIC ETC.

On this note...many parents think we JUST PLAY ALL DAY. Here are some important skills we are working on with their children.:

*****Language to Literacy Concepts *****

- Auditory and Visual Discrimination
 - Auditory Memory
 - Auditory Processing
 - Clapping for syllabification
 - Context Clues
 - Direction Following
 - Facial and Lip Movement
 - Initial Sound
 - Multiple Intelligence Learning
 - Oral Motor
 - Phonological Awareness
 - Predictability
 - Rhyming, Rhythm and Repetition
 - Self Control
 - Sequencing
 - Singing with volume variability/control
 - Sound Prediction
 - Sounds in the initial position
 - Syntax
 - Taking Turns
 - Vocabulary Enhancement
- Have a WONDERFUL summer! I always look forward to it but it slips by so quickly. I will be re-visiting some of you and that will be FUN! Remind the parents to PLAY BOARD GAMES with their family and spend some time outside! I always enjoy hearing from you...even if it is just a quick line! If you enjoy these newsletters and would kindly enter a comment in my guestbook or send one to me...that is what keeps me going! Thanks!**