

- **Spring is one of the four seasons.**
- **The four seasons are Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer.**
- **Spring comes after Winter and before Summer.**
- **The days get longer and warmer.**
- **Many animals have babies such as cows, birds, ducks**
- **Animals such as bears that hibernate start to wake up and become active.**
- **During April you will see more rain showers.**
- **We start to see insects and birds**
- **During May the flowers will start to bloom.**

You can plant a garden, flower beds etc. If you don't have enough outdoor space to accommodate these activities you can create space using plastic tubs and just do them on a smaller scale.

## **SOCIAL**

### **Video about Spring**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6-B9sxC1sM>

**Target: sharing ideas**

### **Bug Bounce**

- Place a small blanket on the floor with an assortment of plastic insects. Have the children each grab a hold of the blanket.
- Then let them have fun tossing and catching the insects with the blanket.
- See if they can bounce the insects off of the blanket.

**Target: teamwork**

### **Spring is here song**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qhv29\\_M-P5Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qhv29_M-P5Q)

**Target: peer discussion**

### **Magnifying Glass Bug Hunt**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wmry\\_E-5JLw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wmry_E-5JLw)

Watch the above video and then take the children outdoors to see what bugs the children can find using magnifying glasses. (You can get magnifying glasses at the Dollar stores)

**Target: sharing experiences**

### **Set up a bird feeder**

The Dollar Store has cheap bird feeders and bags of seed

**Target: cooperation**

May 2018- Spring

## PHYSICAL

### Fine Motor



#### **Caterpillars**

<http://www.littlefoodjunction.com/2013/04/caterpillars.html#.WtPQRi7wbIV>

*If you have young children make sure that you cut the grapes to an appropriate size so that they are not a choking hazard. Skewers can be purchased at the Dollar Store.*

**Target: eye hand coordination**

#### **Paint with Flowers**

What You Need:

- Paint
- Feathers (Dollar Store)
- Paper

What You Do:

- Let your children paint a picture, using feathers as a brush.

**Target: grasping**

**Variations:** use plastic insects or silk or real flowers

#### **Rock Insects**

– have the children paint rocks to look like insects or spiders or whatever they want. Glue on google eyes, pipe cleaners, sparkles, beads etc. and legs.

**Target: grasping**

#### **Play dough Insect Prints**

– provide green or brown play dough (kool aid or cinnamon add wonderful color and smell to the play dough) along with plastic insects to hide in the play dough. Children can also press the insects in the play dough to make impressions.

**Target: sensory**

### Gross Motor

#### **Robin Red Breast**

Way up high, little robin flying just so (put hands up as high as possible)

Quick down low for a worm he must go (put hands low, almost touching the floor)

With a wing on the left and a wing on the right, (extended arms one at a time)

Fly to your nest for soon it will be night (flapping arms like flying)

**Target: co-ordination**

May 2018- Spring

*Ask the children act out the following songs*

### **Little Birds Action Rhyme**

Little birds, little birds, fly to the door.  
Little birds, little birds, sit on the floor!  
Little birds, little birds, jump up and down.  
Little birds, little birds, don't make a sound!  
Little birds, little birds, tip toe to me.  
Little birds, little birds, bend your knees!  
Little birds, little birds, peep, peep, peep.  
Little birds, little birds, sleep, sleep, sleep.

**Target: balance**

### **Once There was a Ladybug (act out the song)**

Tune: "Mary Had A Little Lamb"

Once there was a ladybug,  
Ladybug, ladybug.  
Once there was a ladybug,  
Who went outside to play.

She liked to crawl around,  
Crawl around, crawl around.  
She liked to crawl around  
Crawling different ways.

Once a great big bird came by,  
Bird came by, bird came by.  
Once a great big bird came by,  
So she flew away. **Target: movement**

### **Spring Dance**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udrIY0nts->

[E](#) **Target: co-ordination**

## **INTELLECTUAL**

*Cognitive*

### **Seed Sorting Tray**

<https://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2015/04/seed-sorting-activity.html>

**Target: sorting**

May 2018- Spring

### **Bouncing Egg Experiment**

<http://happiestmomontheblog.blogspot.ca/2012/06/bouncing-egg-experiment-preschool.html>

**Target: cause and effect**

### **Grow a bean**

<https://theimaginationtree.com/growing-beans-on-cotton-balls/>

**Target: sequencing**



### **Plant a bulb**

<https://buggyandbuddy.com/science-for-kids-planting-a-bulb-w-free-printable-science-invitation-saturday/>

**Target: sequencing**

### **Spring Math Game**

<https://fun-a-day.com/spring-math-game-for-kids/>

**Target: number recognition**

### *Language*

#### **Read a book about Spring (insects, flowers, Spring, birds)**

**Target: vocabulary**

#### **4 Little Bugs**

One little bug went out to play,  
on a spider's web one day.  
He had ever so much fun;  
He called for another bug to come.

Two little bugs went out to play,  
on a spider's web one day.  
They had ever so much fun;  
they called for another bug to come.

Three little bugs went out to play,  
on a spider's web one day.  
They had ever so much fun;  
they called for another bug to come.

Four little bugs went out to play,  
on a spider's web one day.  
They got stuck, all in a bunch.  
And along came spider, in time for lunch!

May 2018- Spring

*Let the children act out this rhyme. Have one child start and have another child join at the appropriate time. When all four children are crawling around the web, choose a fifth and sixth child to be the spider, who crawls in and chases the bugs. (make sure all of the children that want to play are included in the activity) If the children are indoors explain that they have to crawl around. If you are doing the activity outside the children can run. Target: rhyming*

### **The Days of Spring**

(Sung to: Farmer in the Dell)

The days of Spring are here,  
Warm, sunny days are near,  
Flowers and bees, and birds in trees.  
The days of spring are here.

**Target: vocabulary**

### **Caterpillar Change**

There was a little caterpillar crawling all about. (Walk with fingers on arm)  
He worked and he worked without a doubt. (Wiggle fingers)  
Wrapping himself in a snug cocoon. (Wrap other hand around fingers)  
Waiting and waiting, will it be soon? (hold fingers)  
Look, he's coming out, my oh my! (raise arms in excitement)  
For now he's become a beautiful butterfly (Cross thumbs and flap hands like wings)

**Target: rhyming**

## **CREATIVE**

### **Nature Walk**

Take the children on a walk around the neighborhood or to a park. Have them look and listen for different signs of Spring. ***Make sure this is listed as an outing on your calendar as well and you have an off-site permission form in place if you are doing this activity. You can have the children collect items to make a nature collage as an activity. You can also collect materials just in your backyard to make a nature collage as well.***

**Target: sensory**

### **Finger Paint Butterflies or Dragonflies**

– fold a piece of paper in half, and have the children to finger paint on one side of the paper. Press the paper together to create a butterfly or dragonfly.

**Target: sensory**

### **Enter to Win**

Email the topic for the month of May to [odysseychildcare@outlook.com](mailto:odysseychildcare@outlook.com) by April 30 2018 for a chance to enter a Spring prize pack at the monthly meeting.

**Target: Reading activity plan**

May 2018- Spring

### **Birdseed Play-Dough**

Add some bird seed to your playdough .It gives a different texture to the usual smooth play-do and encourages descriptive talk amongst the children.

#### **How to make it:**

You will need:

- birdseed,
- 2 cups of flour,
- 1 cup of salt
- Some water.

Mix it all together and you have your birdseed play-do. **Target: creativity**

### **Lady Bug apple snack**

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/29926/apple-ladybug-treats/>

**Target: decision making**



### **Flower Garden Playdough**

<https://www.fantasticfunandlearning.com/flower-play-dough-invitation.html>

**Target: decision making**



### **Flower Arranging**

<https://rhythmsofplay.com/flower-arranging-montessori-practical-life-activity-for-kids/>

**Target: creativity**



## **EMOTIONAL**

### **Butterfly snacks**

<http://jugglingwithkids.com/2012/01/butterfly-snacks.html>

**Target-self confidence**



May 2018- Spring

### **Feather Painting**

Supply the children with feathers, paint and paper. Let them get creative and paint with the feathers.

**Target: independence**



### **Sensory Bins**

#### **Building Nests**

<http://lifewithmoorebabies.blogspot.ca/2016/06/songbird-sensory-bin-for-your-little.html>

#### **Spring Garden**

<https://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2011/03/spring-garden-sensory-tub.html>

**Target: self - expression**



#### **Gardening Sensory Bin**

<https://www.fantasticfunandlearning.com/gardening-sensory-bins.html>

**Target: independence**

