

Spring is coming and it is a great opportunity to discuss the changes that come with Spring. You can plant a garden, flower beds, order butterfly kits 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.

**MOTHER'S DAY** is this month please make sure that you have the children make something special for their mom. If you have a great idea post it on Odyssey Facebook page.

## **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.

**Target: sharing experiences**

## **PHYSICAL**

### *Fine Motor*

#### **Paint with Flowers (silk or real)**

**What You Need:**

Paint  
flowers  
Paper

**What You Do:**

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

**Target: grasping**

**Variations:** use plastic insects, feathers, plastic insects

### **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: eye hand co-ordination**

### 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**

*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.

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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**

#### **Grow a vegetable**

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

**Target: sequencing**

#### **Caterpillar to Butterfly**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AUeM8Mbalk>

**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, butterflies)**

**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!

*Encourage 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 outdoors for a nature see and listen hunt. Have them look and listen for different signs of Spring. **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**

### **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: sensory**



### **Lady Bug apple snack**

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

**Target: decision making**

If you do this the children should be given the individual food items on an individual plate that they are only touching their own food items to create their apple ladybug.

### **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**

### **Feather Painting**

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

**Target: independence**

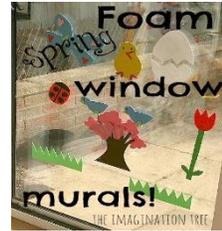


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### Spring foam window murals

<https://theimaginationtree.com/spring-foam-window-murals/>

Target: independence



### Sensory Bins

#### Building Nests

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

Target: self confidence

#### 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



#### Goop and Flower Cupcakes

<https://theimaginationtree.com/goop-and-flower-cupcakes/>

Target: self confidence

Variation: you can just add dirt and water instead of goop.



#### Mother's Day Card

#### You're Tea-Riffic! Mother's Day Card

##### Materials:

- Recycled Egg Carton (Not Styrofoam)
- Washable Tempera Paint
- Construction Paper

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- Cardstock
  - Markers
  - Glue
  - A Bag of Mom's Favorite Tea!
1. Cut the bottom of your egg carton into individual egg cups. You'll only need one per card, and the corner cups seem to work best. Then, cut the individual egg cups in half so that when you lay it against the piece of paper, it looks like a teacup cut in half.
  2. Paint your egg cups, then let them dry.
  3. While they are drying, cut your construction paper into a 5 ½ by 4" rectangle. Cut your cardstock into a slightly larger rectangle, about 6 ½ by 5". Glue the construction paper onto the cardstock. Decorate as desired, leaving a space in the middle for your teacup.
  4. When the egg cup is dry, glue it into the center of your card. Draw a matching handle, turning it into a teacup. Stick a bag of your mother's favorite tea inside. **Target: self expression**



### Mother's Day Gift Idea

Easy Cake pop recipe

<https://divascancook.com/how-to-make-cake-pops-easy-best/>

**Target: creativity**

