

Opening the Gift

Digging Up Dirt



Vol. 16 No. 8

April 2012



The Surprise Garden by Zoe Hall

Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert

Vegetable Garden by Douglas Florian

A Green, Green Garden by Mercer Mayer

Up, Down, and Around by Katherine Ayres

Who Is In The Garden? by Vera Rosenberry

Wake Up, It's Spring! by Lisa Campbell Ernst

CD: *"Walter the Waltzing Worm"* by Hap Palmer

In My Garden: A Counting Book by Ward Schumaker

Compost Stew: An A to Z Recipe for the Earth by Mary McKenna Siddals

Nursery Rhyme: Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary

My Garden

This is my garden
(one hand out, palm up)
I'll rake it with care
(rake palms with fingers)
And then some flower seeds
(sprinkle seeds)
I'll plant in there.
(pat palm with fingers)
The sun will shine,
(circle arms overhead)
And the rain will fall,
(wiggle fingers downward)
And my garden will blossom,
(make fists, open fingers slowly)
Growing straight and tall.
(reach hands high overhead)
preschooleducation.com



Little Seed

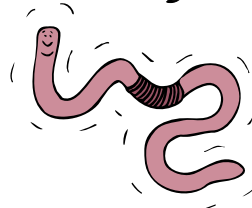
Little seed in the ground
(crouch down on floor, hands covering head)
Sitting so still.
(stay crouching)
Little seed, will you sprout?
Yes, I will!
(jump up and stretch)

Songs & Fingerplays to Share:

Five Little Seeds

Five little seeds buried in the ground;
The first one said,
"When's the sun coming round?"
The second one said,
"I really need a drink!"
The third one said,
"I feel some rain, I think!"
The fourth one said,
"I'm so cozy in my bed."
The fifth one said,
"Wake up, you sleepyhead!"
The rain came down and the sun came out,
And those five little seeds -
They started to sprout!

The Mailbox, Preschool Edition Apr/May 2009



Wiggly Warbling

(tune: Jingle Bells)

Wiggle worm
Wiggle worm
Wiggle your way down
(wiggle to the floor)
In the soil deep and dark
(continue wiggling)
You wiggle underground.
Wiggle worm,
Wiggle worm,
Wiggle your way up.
(wiggle up to a standing position)
To the surface, you must go.
(continue wiggling)
It's raining way too much!
The Mailbox, Preschool Edition Apr/May 2012

Your next visit will be: May _____

Next month's theme will be: "Dive In!"





More Books to Share:

Ten Seeds by Ruth Brown

Yucky Worms by Vivian French

Tiny Green Thumbs by C.Z. Guest

Isabella's Garden by Glenda Millard

Wiggle and Waggle by Caroline Arnold

An Earthworm's Life by John Himmelman

Good Morning Garden by Barbara Brenner

In the Garden: Who's Been Here? by Lindsay Barrett George

Measuring in the Garden—a Math Around Us book by Tracey Steffora



Activity Ideas:

Light and Dark: Explain that a worm moves across the floor by using its muscles to stretch out long and thin, reaching as far as possible. Then it bunches up, short and fat. Have students practice wiggling like worms. Then tell them that worms like the dark. Turn off the light and prompt students to wiggle like worms. Then turn on the lights and prompt your little worms to freeze. Continue this game for several rounds.

The Mailbox, Preschool Edition Apr/May 2012

Swirling Seeds: This unique discovery bottle has a seed-themed twist! Place basil seeds in an empty plastic bottle. Then fill the bottle with water and tape or hot glue the lid in place. Put the bottle in a sunny window. During center time, encourage students to shake and swirl the bottle, watching the seeds move. Then have them return the bottle to the window. After several days, the seeds will begin to sprout!

Packet Match: Gather pairs of empty seed packets. Laminate the packets and place them in a center. A youngster spreads the packets out so they are faceup. Then he matches the pairs of packets.

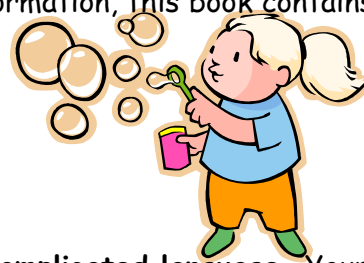
The Mailbox, Preschool Edition Apr/May

Book of the Month:



Bubbles, Rainbows & Worms: Science Experiments For Preschool Children by Sam Ed Brown
PTC J 372.35 B

"Children learn by doing; they have a powerful desire to explore, question, and manipulate. The experiments in *Bubbles, Rainbows & Worms* satisfy this curiosity while introducing children to the fascinating world of science. With age-appropriate activities and up-to-date science information, this book contains easy experiments with plants, the environment, air, water, and the senses."



Road to Reading Tip:

Your young child is able to understand more complicated language. Your preschooler's vocabulary expands rapidly, supporting her ability to talk about a wide-range of topics, from dinosaurs to doll houses to dark clouds in the sky. Your young child is also able to understand longer and more complex sentences, such as a set of directions. For example, young children are able to understand a parent or caregiver's request to "Put the puzzle away, find your coat, and meet me at the door."

QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?! Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, at 410 638-3151, ext. **2279**. e-mail: chase@hcplonline.org
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator at 410-638-4800 (beginning at 8 AM)