

discovery time

Springtime Blooms

Parents and caregivers, extend Discovery Time into your home. Share these fingerplays and activities with young children. **The letter for this theme is B.**

Spring

This is the way the flowers sleep,
(Make two fists)
Through the winter long.
This is the way the flowers grow,
(Slowly open hands)
When they hear the robin's song.
(Raise arms)

The Gardener Plants the Seeds

*(Tune: "The Farmer in the Dell";
Improvise actions as suggested by lyrics)*
The gardener plants the seeds.
The gardener plants the seeds.
High-ho the derry-oh,
The gardener plants the seeds.

Second Verse: The rain falls on the
ground.

Third Verse: The sun shines bright and
warm.

Fourth Verse: The seeds begin to grow.

Fifth Verse: Blooms grow everywhere.

Pitter, Patter Falls the Rain

Pitter, patter falls the rain,
(Flutter fingers down)
On the roof and window pane.
*(Put hands on head for roof; put hands
out with palms flat for pane)*
Softly, softly it comes down,
(Flutter fingers down)
Makes a stream that runs around.
(Roll hands)
Flowers lift their heads and say,
(Cup and stretch out hands)
"A nice cool drink for us today."
(Point to self)

Splash! Fall the Raindrops

Splash! Fall the raindrops,
(Clap hands softly)
To the ground they go;
(Point to the ground)
We need the raindrops,
(Wiggle fingers down from head to waist)
To help the flowers grow.
(Cup hands)

During the Spring

During the spring, it often showers
(Flutter fingers down)

Or the sun shines for many hours,
(Form circle in the air with arms)

Both are good for all the flowers!

(Cup hands and extend arms like flowers)



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Help your child get ready to read with these simple activities.

- **Talking:** Talk with your child about how a plant grows. Teach her words related to plants such as *seed, roots, stem, petals*, etc.
- **Singing:** Try singing a song multiple times, experimenting with the speed of the song and the sound of your voice. Sing the song quickly and then slowly. Sing the song with a high-pitched voice and then with a low-pitched voice.
- **Reading:** Enjoy some informational books about flowers and the plant growth cycle with your child. The Library has a nice selection of nonfiction for children.
- **Writing:** You can have fun with writing outside. Write your child's name in the snow, and then let him try on his own. When it is warm outside, give your child chalk to write on the sidewalk or simply use water and a paintbrush.
- **Playing:** Get creative with making your own toys out of empty boxes and other recycled items.

family literacy tip

How to Read Nonfiction Text

Kids love to read about real people, places, and events. Nonfiction books present real information in engaging and interesting ways. However, most kids read a lot more fiction than nonfiction, so spend some extra time helping your reader learn how to navigate a nonfiction book. Begin by explaining that the book you're about to share is nonfiction. That means that the book will give us information that is true. The book will be organized around a specific topic or idea, and we may learn new facts through reading. Some kids even enjoy sorting their home libraries into fiction and nonfiction books. This simple categorization task helps your child understand the difference between fiction and nonfiction.

"How to Read Nonfiction Text." *Reading Rockets*.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/how-read-nonfiction-text>. Accessed 10 Mar. 2019.



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