

Themes

Flower Shop

April showers bring May flowers! Children will have fun learning about all kinds of flowers and ways to care for them. Create a pretend flower shop and explore simple gardening. Children will also learn about pollination during this theme.

Animals All Around

Big and small, short and tall, scaly and furry—children will love stories, rhymes, and more featuring all kinds of animals. They can explore with their whole bodies as they imitate animal sounds and movements. Domestic and wild animals are covered.

Fun in the Sun

The weather is warming up and summer is almost here! Engage in all types of summertime activities, including water play, swinging and sliding, and tasting cool treats. Discover summer symbols as you enjoy the outdoors.

Summer Safety

Healthy habits help everyone have more fun in the sun. Children will learn the importance of using sunscreen, protecting their eyes from the sun, being safe around water, car safety, wearing safety gear, and other ways to have a safe, happy summer.

Vocabulary

planting, flowers, watering can, pets, forest animals, savanna animals, playground, grass, ice pop, helmet, sunglasses, water bottle

Colors/Shapes



Opposites

below/above

Sign Language



mommy

With open hand, tap chin twice.



daddy

With open hand, tap forehead twice.



sleep

With palm toward face, slide hand down, bringing fingers together; close eyes.



comb

Use open hand to comb back hair from the side of your head.



swing

Make V with fingers on one hand, and set them on two fingers of other hand. Swing hands back and forth as if on a swing.



bubbles

Make O sign with each hand. Alternating hands, move them up and down, opening and closing fingers like popping bubbles.

Learn with Me!

• Flower Creations

Bring out artificial flowers or go on a trip to a store with your child to get some inexpensive ones. Draw attention to the shapes, colors, and sizes of the flowers. Choose a few favorite flowers and use them as tools to paint, tie them together with a piece of ribbon to offer as a gift to someone special, or use them to decorate an area of the house.

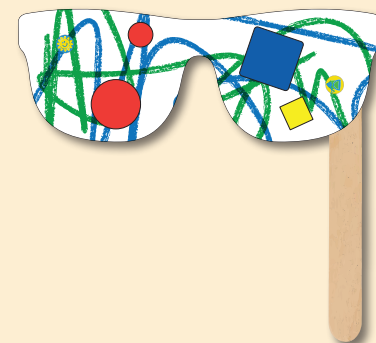
• Animal Sort

Find pictures of animals in magazines or online. Go through the pictures pointing out that some animals are big and some animals are small. You may also draw attention to the difference between you and your child. Which one of you is big? Which one of you is small? Set out all the animal pictures on the table or rug to classify and sort. Consider attaching the pictures to craft sticks and using them in imaginary play.

My Project: My Summer Sunglasses

When I bring this project home, we can:

- Take funny pictures wearing the summer sunglasses with family members.
- Try on summer clothing we have at home (hats, sunglasses, etc.).
- Use the summer sunglasses and other toys to engage in pretend play.



Graphic is intended to show sample of project. Materials may be substituted or used differently.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Book List

- | | |
|--|---|
| <i>What Can I Smell?</i>
by Annie Kubler | <i>Animal Families: Safari</i>
by Jane Ormes |
| <i>Hello, World! Garden Time</i>
by Jill McDonald | <i>Beach Day</i>
by Karen Roosa |
| <i>Where's the Zebra?</i>
by Nosy Crow | <i>Maisy Learns to Swim</i>
by Lucy Cousins |

Songs

I'm a Little Watering Can

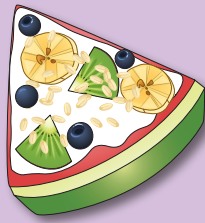
Sung to "I'm a Little Teapot"
 I'm a little watering can,
(Point to self.)
 Short and stout.
 Here is my handle,
(Place left fist on hip.)
 Here is my spout.
(Create spout with right arm.)
 When the flowers need some water,
 Hear me shout.
(Nod head.)
 Tip me over and pour me out.
(Tip sideways to the right.)



Recipe

Watermelon Pizza

- medium-sized watermelon
- vanilla yogurt
- fruity toppings (grapes, kiwis, bananas, etc.)
- crunchy toppings (toasted almonds, coconut flakes, etc.)



Cut your fruity pizza toppings ahead of time. Then, cut the watermelon into slices. Choose one slice of watermelon; this will be your "pizza crust." Spread vanilla yogurt onto the watermelon. Now, invite your child to help you add any desired fruity toppings to the watermelon. Give the watermelon pizza a final touch by adding crunchy toppings. Cut the watermelon pizza into smaller triangle pieces as needed. Enjoy the cold fruity treat on a hot summer day!

Helmet

Sung to "Did You Ever See a Lassie?"
 Don't forget to wear your helmet, your helmet, your helmet.
 Don't forget to wear your helmet on trikes and on bikes.
 A helmet can help you
 Avoid lots of boo-boos.
 Don't forget to wear your helmet on trikes and on bikes.

Reminders
