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YMCA Child Care Resource & Referral

SPRING 2025

SEASONAL RESOURCE SHEET



Spring brings to mind clearing out gardens and planting tiny seeds. These seeds seem to magically transform into sprouts, then into beautiful flowers or delicious food. It's awe-inspiring to witness the complete metamorphosis of something so small into something so magnificent. Understanding this process, generates involvement, along with anticipation each year—starting from digging and planting to eventually selecting and placing. This hands-on experience nurtures a deep love for nature and spring, allowing the time to wonder and explore.

Include the BC Early Learning Framework in your practice!

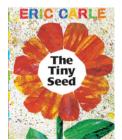
Putting Critical Reflection to Work: Reflective Questions for Others, Materials, and the World: What materials invite experimentation, problem solving, or intrigue?

"Play is an avenue to these vibrant engagements that is the basis of all learning. As children engage with the world they delve into inquiries, generate new ideas, solve problems, and build theories of people, places, and materials. These engagements can be vibrant, exhilarating and noisy, or they can be quiet, focused, and solitary. Providing time, space, and materials rich with possibilities for experimenting, imagining, and transforming allows children to create and explore in diverse ways based on their interests. Creating contexts for each child's engagement and participation is perhaps the most important way to inspire meaningful learning experiences" p 75 Early Learning Framework

Expand gardening activities to nurture children's curiosity by incorporating them into circle time, sensory play, numeracy, pretend play, fine motor skills, or the loose parts area.

Gardening is a great way to initiate a meaningful and fun learning experiences for children. Children can learn new skills such as;

- Responsibility in caring for plants
- Learning about cause and effect
- Self-confidence from achieving their goals and enjoying the food they have grown
- Reasoning and discovery by learning about different plants, weather, and the environment
- Cooperation including shared play and team- work
- Creativity by finding new and exciting ways to grow food



The Tiny Seed, by Eric Carle is a great Spring story about the exciting journey of a resilient seed that travels around the world after it's carried from

it's flower home by the Autumn wind. Watch as this adventure comes to life in a brilliantly illustrated tale of perseverance and hope, and see how it sparks opportunities for intriguing, creative provocations your children will love.



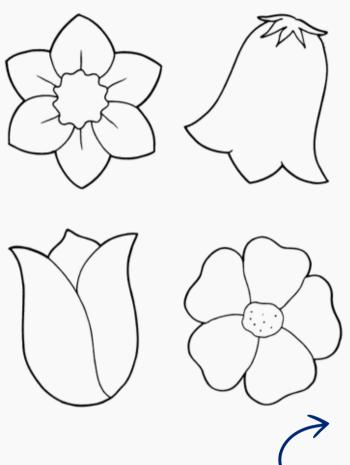
Use the children's exploration of materials to create pedagogical narrations, a collection of photos, stories, moments and reflections to

to share with children, parents and colleagues. This is a great way to reflect on the learning that is happening in your program and share it with families.



Creating your own circle time resources around common areas of interest will save you time in the long run, as these materials will be available to you for many years to come.

FELT STORY TRACEABLES



Find these resources in our Library

Five Little Flowers

Five little flowers growing in a row.
The first one said, "I'm purple you know."
The second one said, "I'm pink as pink can be."
The third one said, "I'm blue like the sea."
The fourth one said, "I'm a way red fellow."
The fifth one said, "My colour is yellow."
Then out came the sun, big and bright,
And five little flowers smile in delight.







CHILD CARE PROVIDER CORNER





Don't forget to send us your favorite provocations/activities/ documentations etc. that happened to inspire the children in your care this season.



Send your resource provocation pictures to ygv.ccrr@bc.ymca.ca

Aknowledgements:

https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/ HealthyLiving/gardening-for-children