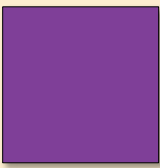


Themes

May Flowers
Animals All Around

Shapes and Colors



Numbers

19, 20

Letters

Yy, Zz

Alphabet Words

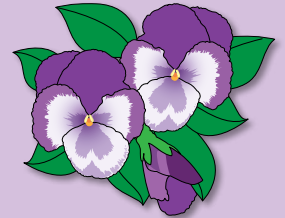
yams, yawn,
yoga, yogurt,
zebra, zero,
zipper, zucchini

Sign Language



Theme Descriptions

May Flowers: Summer is just around the corner! Prepare with games and activities that focus on gardening, flowers, caterpillars, butterflies, and birds. Mother's Day will also be celebrated during this theme.



Animals All Around: A variety of animal activities and wild creative art projects take place in this theme. Children will learn fun facts about animals from all over the world. They will also learn about what is required to keep animals healthy and happy.

Activities for Home

- Walk around your neighborhood on a flower search. What colors can you find? Take time to smell the flowers too. Which flowers have no smell? Can you find dandelions? Do any bushes have flowers?
- Visit a garden shop or florist to explore different kinds of flowers. Consider planting a few flowers in a garden or buying a potted plant with flowers. Take turns with your child watering the plant according to the directions.
- Watch a nature show on television or read a book about animals. Use the words *feathers*, *fur*, *scales*, or *shells* to talk about the animals' features. Why don't fish have fur? You may enjoy drawing silly animals together—a bird with a shell or a snake with feathers!
- Talk about animal homes. If you don't know the answers to your child's questions, don't worry! Search the Internet or visit the library to look for answers together. Finding answers can be just as important as knowing the answers.

Look for Books

The best way to learn which books your child enjoys is to read children's books—lots of them! Check out funshineextras.com for Book Lists corresponding to each month's themes. Get to know your local librarians and ask for their recommendations as well.

I Love Saturdays y domingos
by Alma Flor Ada

Flowers
by Vijaya Khisty Bodach

The Mother's Day Mice
by Eve Bunting

The Flower Alphabet Book
by Jerry Pallotta

North American Animals
by Dawne Allette

Annie and the Wild Animals
by Jan Brett

Memorial Day (Let's Celebrate)
by Clara Cella

Eric Carle's Animals Animals
by Laura Whipple

Cooking Together

When cooking with young children, allow them to help in a safe way with mixing, pouring, rolling, mashing, shaking, etc. Use words to describe what you are doing and what you plan to do next. Talk about what you see, smell, feel, hear, and taste.

Purple Shakes

1½ cups nonfat vanilla frozen yogurt
½ cup milk
¼ cup grape juice concentrate
¾ tsp. lemon juice

Place ingredients in a blender or food processor and blend until smooth. Adjust thickness by increasing or decreasing the amount of milk. Pour into cups and serve immediately. Use a straw or spoon to avoid having a purple mustache. Makes 4 (½-cup) servings.



Sing Along With Me

Find these songs at www.funshineexpress.com

One Little Seed

Sung to "London Bridge"

One little seed is in the ground,
In the ground, in the ground.
One little seed is in the ground,
Fast asleep.

Warm sunshine and big raindrops,
Big raindrops, big raindrops.
Warm sunshine and big raindrops,
All falling down.

One little seed peeks through the ground,
Through the ground, through the ground.
One little seed peeks through the ground,
Wide awake!



Animals Everywhere

Sung to "This Old Man"

Over here, over here,
I see animals everywhere!
Who is hiding behind the tree?
I can't guess, let's listen and see!

"Chomp, chomp," goes the alligator.
"Roar, roar," bellows the big black bear.
"Screech, screech," calls the bald eagle.
"Pee-ew!" I smell a skunk in the air!



Reminders...

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