



## Craft Activity

**Theme:** Spring

**Intro:** Spring is one of 4 seasons in Australia. The Australian Spring starts on the 1st September and continues until the 30th November each year. The sun starts to shine through, with many flowers growing in the garden. Many animals have their babies during this season.

**Craft activity:** Paper Plate Bird's Nest

**Children will need:** Paper Plate, Scissors, glue, straw or wool, paint and brushes, textas, feathers, coloured card.

### Instructions:

To make the nest, cut a paper plate in half and paint the plate with any colour you would like. Use glue to stick the straw or wool onto your nest. Use scissors to cut long, oval shapes from coloured card. (These will become the birds). Cut small triangles for beaks. Glue the beaks to each bird, and then glue the birds to the back of your nest. Draw some eyes on your birds. Add feathers to your birds if you wish to. How many birds can you fit in your nest?

**Extension Idea:** Pop sticks or green straws can be used instead of pipe cleaners. Red tissue paper can also be used in place of the patty pans. Scrunch the petals a little to give them dimension. Should you not have black card, use black paint to paint the centre of the poppy or black "loop" dots from Velcro dots. Apple print poppies (cut apples in half and remove small amount of core. Use apple and red paint to print poppy shape onto card). Look at grandparents or great-grandparents war medals, if they have some.

**Fact:** The first Spring flowers to appear are normally dandelions, daffodils, lilies and tulips.



**Learning Outcome 2:** Children are connected with and contribute to their world

## Coordinator extension ideas and group time guide

### Sensory activity: Garden Play Tray

**You will need:** Sensory Playdough, flowers and herbs from the garden, plastic butterflies or other insects, tray.

#### Play Dough Recipe

- 1 Cup plain flour
- ½ cup salt
- 2 tablespoons cream of tartar
- 1 tablespoon cooking oil
- Approx 1 cup boiling water
- Add cinnamon to scent.

Mix together dry ingredients

Mix oil, cinnamon, into water and add slowly to dry ingredients until dough forms

Knead until smooth and stretchy

Store in an airtight container in the fridge

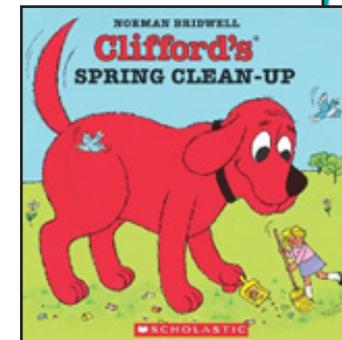
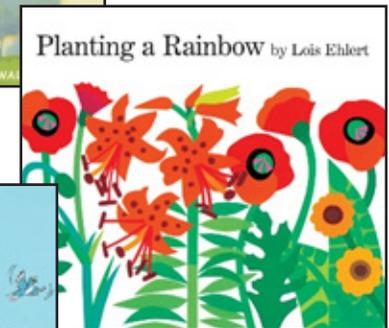
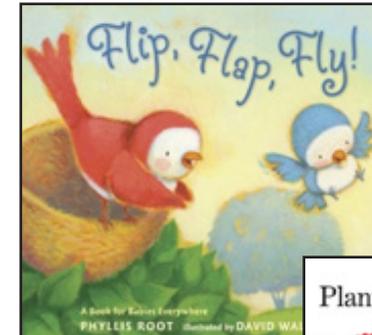
\*You may need to double the recipe to ensure there's enough Playdough for all children

**Instructions:** Make a beautiful flower garden using the playdough, flowers, bugs and other insects.

### Group time ideas:

Story and Song Time

Take the children outside: Lay outside on the grass, or other comfortable area to look and listen to what is in the environment. What can you see and hear? What colours can you see? Are there clouds in the sky? What do they look like?



### Book Suggestions:

Flip, Flap, Fly by: Phyllis Root

Planting a Rainbow by: Lois Ehlert

Clifford's Spring Clean-Up by: Norman Bridwell



## Spring Song

Tune: The Farmer in the Dell  
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The sun is shining bright  
The sun is shining bright,  
Oh how I love the warmth,  
The sun is shining bright

The rain is falling down,  
The rain is falling down,  
Oh how I love the sound,  
The rain is falling down

The flowers start to bloom,  
The flowers start to bloom,  
Oh how I love the sight,  
The flowers start to bloom  
We will all say thank you,  
On Remembrance Day

## The Beehive

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Here is a beehive (hold up fist).  
Where are the bees?  
Hidden away where nobody sees!  
Watch as they fly out of their hive. (Slowly  
open fist, showing  
fingers as you count)  
One, two, three, four, five!  
BZZZZZZZZZZ! They're alive! (wiggle fingers)

## 5 Little Chicks

Tune: 5 Little Ducks  
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Five little chicks went walking one day (hold  
up five fingers or pictures of chicks)  
Into the barn and around the hay. (change  
fingers to walking motion)  
Mother hen says "Cluck, cluck, cluck, CLACK!"  
And 4 little chicks come wandering back.  
Four little chicks..  
Three little chicks..  
Two little chicks..  
One little chick went walking one day  
Into the barn and around the hay  
Mother hen says, "Cluck, cluck, cluck, CLACK!"  
And 5 little chicks come wandering back.