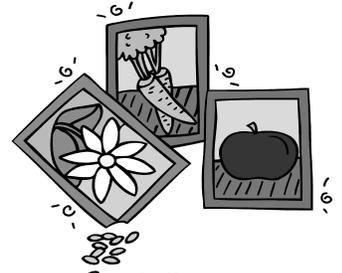


Dear Parents:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our toddler and preschool storytimes. Please continue helping your child develop a love for books and reading by sharing these rhymes, books, and other activities with your child.

Garden Party



Books To Share

Little Chick

by Amy Hest

The Gigantic Turnip

by Aleksei Tolstoy & Niamh Sharkey

My Garden

by Kevin Henkes

To Be Like the Sun

by Susan Marie Swanson

Ten Hungry Rabbits

by Anita Lobel

The Curious Garden

by Peter Brown

Up, Down and Around

by Katherine Ayres

Mushroom in the Rain

by Mirra Ginsburg

Tops and Bottoms

by Janet Stevens

Yucky Worms

by Vivian French

Round the Garden

by Omri Glaser

Little Seeds

by Charles Ghigna

In the Garden

by Elizabeth Spurr



Fun With Fingerplays and Songs

Little Seed

Find a little seed,

(hold thumb and index finger together, squint at where they meet)

And plant it in a pot.

(touch fingers and thumb of other hand together to make a circle, push seed in)

Pour on the water,

(pretend to pour water into pot)

When the sun gets hot.

(wipe brow)

Let it grow and grow,

(bring other hand under bottom of pot)

And up it pops!

(poke finger up through pot, wiggle it)

I'm a Little Flower Pot

(Tune: "I'm a Little Teapot")

I'm a little flower pot mom put out.

(point to self)

If you take care of me, I will sprout.

(nod head and point to self)

When you water me, I will grow

(make sprinkling motions with right hand)

Into a pretty flower, don't you know!

(Raise left hand slowly up from floor, make wide circle with hands or arms.)

Relaxing Flowers

Five little flowers *(hold up five fingers)*

Standing in the sun.

See their heads nodding, *(make fingers nod)*

Bowing, one by one. *(make fingers bow)*

Down, down, down

Falls the gentle rain, *(flutter fingers downward)*

And the five little flowers

Lift up their heads again! *(hold up five fingers)*

My Garden

This is my garden

*(Extend on hand forward
with palm up.)*

I'll rake it with care,

*(Make raking motion on
palm with three fingers of
other hand.)*

And then some flower seeds,

(Pretend to plant seeds.)

I'll plant in there.

The sun will shine

(Make circle with hands.)

And the rain will fall

(Let fingers flutter down to lap.)

And my garden will blossom

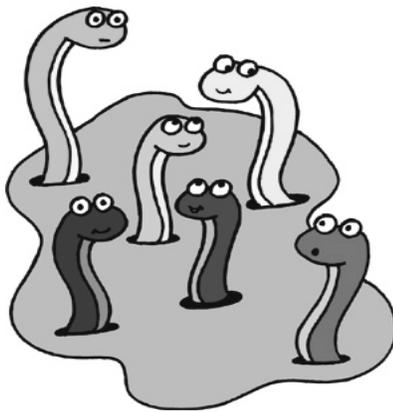
(Cup hands together; extend upward slowly.)

And grow straight and tall.



Worm Friends

One red wiggly worm lying under the sky so blue,
Along comes an orange worm and that makes two.
Two colorful wiggly worms squirming up a tree,
Along comes a yellow worm and that makes three.
Three colorful wiggly worms searching for one more,
Along comes a green worm and that makes four.
Four colorful wiggly worms into a puddle dive,
Along comes a blue worm and that makes five.
Five colorful wiggly worms
Squirming across some sticks,
Along comes a purple one
And that makes six.
1-2-3-4-5-6



Other Fun Things

Shoe Garden

Turn an old boot into a stylish planter by filling the bottom of it with pebbles or aquarium gravel for drainage. Then pack the boot with potting soil. Transplant some annual flowers (marigolds, pansies, or impatiens work well) into your shoe garden.

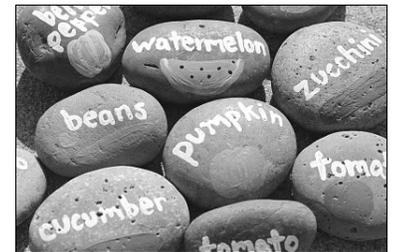
Are Seeds the Same?

Take an ice cube tray and fill each section with a different kind of seed collected at home, outdoors, and from the store. Ask your child, "Are the seeds the same?" Compare how different seeds look and feel. Open up the seeds and see how the insides look. Find other ways to investigate the similarities and differences in seeds.

Painted Rock Labels

Gather flat rocks and clean them (an old toothbrush works well!). Use acrylic paint to decorate your rocks with the names of vegetables or flowers you're planting in your garden.

When planting, label your rows according to what's planted where.



Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library®

Learning to read begins before your child starts school. Help your children develop early literacy skills now; this makes it easier for children to learn to read once they begin school. Five of the best ways to help your child get ready to read are:

- Talking
- Singing
- Reading
- Writing
- Playing

If you would like more information, please ask the staff in the children's area.

Every Child Ready to Read® is a project of the Association for Library Service to Children and the Public Library Association, divisions of the American Library Association.

Updated 1/14

Old Town Library ■ **Council Tree Library** ■ **Harmony Library**

201 Peterson

2733 Council Tree Avenue

4616 South Shields

A joint-use facility of
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