



3s' Team Activity Packet

March 30 through April 3, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our first 3s' team Activity Packet for your children. The activities listed below are suggestions of things you can do at home with your children. Many of these activities would have been part of our classroom programming in the coming days. As our virtual preschool is an ever evolving process, we welcome your feedback on the activity packs. Please send me or your child's teacher your ideas to enhance our home-school connection.

Liz

Theme of the Week: Flowers

April Blessing

Our hands we fold,
Our heads we bow,
For food and drink
We thank God now.
Amen

Spring Flowers (Finger/Song Play)

One spring flower awakened fresh and new,
Out popped another and then there were two.
Two spring flowers were chatting with a bee,
Out popped another and then there were three.
Three spring flowers watched a bird soar,
Out popped another and then there were four.
Four spring flowers happy and alive,
Out popped another and then there were five.

Craft Activity:

Watch this video on how plants grow. At the end, ask the children to name the parts of the plants and where they would place their plant so it can grow.

<https://watchandlearn.scholastic.com/videos/animals-and-plants/plants/what-are-plants.html>

Then ask the children to make a handprint flowers and name each part of the plant.



After your child has created their flowers, you're your child which part is which on the flower and label the parts on their picture.

Hang your pictures in your house windows for people to see walking by!

1. Child's Handprint Flowers - Variation 1

Supplies needed: construction paper, washable paint, paint brush

1. Paint a stem with leaves using washable paint in green.
2. Choose pink, yellow, blue, etc. paint to make the flowers.
3. Paint on child's palm and have them stamp their hands on the stem.
4. Repeat the steps to make several flowers on the same paper.

Variation 2:

Supplies needed: construction paper, washable paint, paint brush or Q-Tip or sponge, scissors, glue

1. Using green construction paper, cut a stem and leaves. The child or parent can do the cutting, depending on their skill sets. So parents, if your child cuts better than you, have them do the cutting😊
2. Have your child paint glue on the back of the stem and leaves and place them on the background paper.
3. Paint the flowers. You can make handprints, dot art using a Q-tip, dot art using your child's finger, (Dip their finger into paint and have them dot on the flowers) or dip a paint brush in the paint and paint or dip a piece of sponge into paint to make flowers.

2. Flower Two: Cherry Blossom Trees- Variation 1

Supplies needed: brown crayon, tissue paper, scissors (optional), glue, paper

1. Child draws some straight lines to make the trunk and tree stems with a brown crayon. Drawing from the bottom of paper for the trunk and then lines from the trunk. They will be the stems for the flowers. Parents can use this opportunity to practice "Down and Up" with them
2. Cut pink tissue paper into approx. 2 inch squares. Or have your child tear them into small pieces.

3. Some children love to use scissors. This may be a chance to ask them to try it (with your assistance!)
 4. Child crumples the cut tissue paper, dips it in the glue and pastes the flowers on the line/stem.
2. Another Cherry Blossom Project – Variation 2
- Cherry Blossom trees to coincide with the Cherry Blossom Festival.
- It is a two part project with creating the trunk first with strips of brown paper and then adding the crown with paint afterwards. For the crown we used cotton balls or a sponge attached to a clothes pin or bubble wrap mitts.
- We have also just painted the trunk with brown paint before.



Viloo!!! We don't need to go to the Tidal Basin. Hang your child's artwork in your windows for friends and neighbors to see when they walk by.

Science Experiments:

Color Changing Flowers Science Experiment

It's easy to see how plants drink water by doing this simple science experiment with any cut white flower. Carnations, daisies, and white roses will all yield beautiful results.

Fill up to six small canisters with water; drip about 3 drops of food coloring in each one. You can even make a rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. Place a few flowers in each container and wait to see what happens.

It may take a few hours for anything visual to happen. During that time, talk about how plants drink water.

Ask the children how very tall plants get water all the way up to their highest leaves, branches, and flowers. You may need to guide the discussion to lead my children to the conclusion that plants absorb water through their roots in the ground. Water moves from the roots up through the stem and into the leaves and flowers through tissue called *xylem*.

After a couple of hours each of the flowers begin to change colors! It was interesting to note that some of the colors, like blue and purple, were more vibrant than other colors, like orange and yellow.

Leave the flowers overnight to develop and compare the colors the next morning.

How Plants Drink Water

Water moves through plants through the *xylem*. But how does water defy gravity and move upward to the very highest leaves of a tree?

The answer lies in *capillary action*, the process that plants use to pull water up from the ground. There are several factors that enable capillary action to happen.

First is the force of *adhesion*, (like a bandaid that sticks to your skin) which is the attraction between water molecules and plant fibers.

Second is the force of *cohesion*, which is the attraction of one water molecule to another water molecule.

Third is *transpiration*. When water evaporates from the leaves, buds, and petals of a plant, more water is drawn upward to fill in the empty space. It is similar to what happens when a person sucks water through a straw.

All three of these factors combine to enable a plant to draw water from the ground and distribute it throughout the entire plant. Doing this color changing flower experiment makes it easy to see how capillary action works.

FLOWER ACTIVITY 1: ICE MELT

First, you want to get your flowers ready to freeze in ice for the ice melt science activity. Have the kids help you pull apart flowers. Add the flowers to different shape containers or molds. Fill with water and place in the freezer until frozen.

Once your flower-filled containers are frozen, get ready to explore the fun of melting ice to free the flowers. Set up a large bowl of warm water along with meat basters and squeeze bottles. I suggest putting all of the frozen flowers into a large bin. Fill your basters with the water and squirt onto the ice. Keep melting the ice. Once melted, look at the flowers. Do they look the same or different from fresh flowers? How do they smell? Do they smell the same as fresh flowers? How do they feel to the touch? Have a discussion about what your child recognized as the differences between fresh and frozen flowers.

FLOWER ACTIVITY 2: PARTS OF A FLOWER

STEP 1: While your molds and containers are in the freezer, you can easily explore the parts of a flower with a few real flowers you saved! Grab some paper plates and markers and write out a petal label on each paper plate.

STEP 2: Identify the petals of the flower and if possible, pull the flower apart and tape or glue the petals to their paper plate.

Have your kids compare the petals of different flowers. How do the colors, sizes, smells, and textures vary? You can also talk about and introduce the 4 main parts of a flower and how each is important for pollination.

Note: Some flowers are easier for identifying the 4 main flower parts than others. The best flowers are those with large obvious petals, easy to recognize stamen (the male part) and a large pistil in the middle of the flower (the site for pollination). The sepal is usually green and lies underneath the petals. Its purpose is to cover and protect the flower bud.

Have the children explore the flowers with their 5 senses:

- What colors do you see?
- Do the flowers have a smell and is it different or the same as the others?
- What do real flowers feel like?
- Where do you think flowers grow?
- Why do you think plants have flowers?
- Are flowers blooming outside now?

If possible, explore and observe real flowers by going outdoors! Don't pick them! Rather make observations and drawings! Kids can even take measurements and check on their flowers. Will they grow taller? Will there be more buds? Wouldn't it be fun to observe these flowers over several weeks?

Watch Mrs. Ferrara's Garden Tour on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=muhKddRVsfc&list=UULw9EC3Qxv9sG6ySuivSSGA&index=39>

And you can go on a worm hunt with Mrs. Leon on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sua-oK94dJM&list=UULw9EC3Qxv9sG6ySuivSSGA&index=35>

Cooking Activity #1:

CHERRY BLOSSOM POPCORN

I used a one quart sauce pan on stove top on medium heat. Covered the bottom of pan with vegetable oil, added 10 drops of red food coloring (lays on top of oil) and added 1/4 cup popcorn kernels, important PUT ON LID. As it starts popping - shake while holding down lid. Once the popping calms down, shake again so some of the popped kernels turn pink. I happened to have some pink Himalayan sea salt (thanks room 105) or use seasonings to taste. And BAM Cherry Blossom Popcorn!!!!

Cooking Activity #2

Flower Cupcakes For Spring

Ingredients:

Yellow cake mix (which usually calls for eggs, oil, and water)

Pink frosting

White nonpareil sprinkles

Yellow bunny Peeps (1 package will make 4-5)

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees and line a cupcake pan with cupcake liners. Prepare your cake mix as directed on the box (which would typically require eggs, oil, and/or water).

Fill each cupcake liner up half way and bake for 15 minutes. Remove them from the oven and allow them to cool completely.

Once cooled, frost each cupcake with your pink frosting. Cut the bunny Peep ears off, as well as the very bottom of the bunnies, all of which will be used as petals. Place the “petals” all the way around the outside edge of the frosted cupcakes. Sprinkle your white sprinkles in the center of each flower. Enjoy!



Flower Game with Math

- Flower pots or any containers
- Plastic flowers (or make your own by gluing flower shapes to craft stick or even sticks from your yard) Use template or make your own flowers.
- Dice
- Play dough

Give each child a flower pot. A child can roll one die and count that number of flowers to add to her pot.

To step up this game, use two dice. Cover the sides of one die with white tape. Draw a colored circle on each side, matching the colors of your flowers. A child rolls both dice; one will show a color and the other a number. The child then places that many flowers of the indicated color in his or her pot.

For older children, use two numbered dice. A child can roll both dice, add the numbers together, and put flowers in the pot that equal the sum.

**Book Suggestions:**

The Run Away Bunny by Margaret Wise Brown

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kj3c99efFsA>

The Enormous Turnip by Jan Lewis

<https://youtu.be/mGw5yTOPTSQ>

Sheep in a Jeep Read Along by Nancy Shaw

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jD2Jl84U3g>

Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DjC2Db40dXA>

And There are More Books on BHP CNS YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLw9EC3Qxv9sG6ySuivSSGA?view_as=subscriber