

KINDERGARTEN  
TWIN RIDGES HOME STUDY

EIGHTH LEARNING PERIOD  
PART A  
By Marguerite Vulfs

Circle

Science

Mathematics

Story

## CIRCLE

The transition from Winter to Spring is upon us in the lower elevations under 4000 feet. Plan to celebrate the Spring Equinox, which is on March 20th this year, with what makes sense for your elevation.

"Winter goodbye, Winter goodbye,  
You may no longer stay  
Because Spring time is on its way"

(On the Equinox, change it to "Spring time is here today")

For this time of year, I enjoy introducing the "Farmer in the Dell" again and have created a Farm theme for circle. Try to time the Farm Circle with the actual planting of seeds, even if you are starting them indoors, or with the preparation of your soil for planting.

You most certainly can continue with all of the songs from the last learning period as well. I usually save songs about the animals this time of year for April. Let March be about Spring flowers.

## SCIENCE

Taking a cue from an earlier lesson, explore the same area for the next 4 weeks. You might take a weekly picture of your child in front of the same tree/plant and then see its progression. Have your child draw from this immersion into Nature. It is ok to point out things that they might not see. You can also make statements or ask questions like "I just noticed this beautiful tree" or "I wonder what a bunch of daffodils growing together look like?" If you know the name of the flower, name it.

Spring offers an abundance for observation and participation. These next few days of transition from Winter to Spring offers much as well. Take these days to compare and contrast: Cold and Warm. Snow and Rain. Rain/Snow and Sun.

Continue with your Book of Flowers. In enrichment we have done Violet, Pussy Willows and Daffodils (early ones). We will do a later version of this flower as well. We also included the Sun with the Daffodils as it finally came out! Include flowering trees. If you are able to pick the flowers and keep them in the house while drawing that is nice. Do not expect it to even look like the flower but also be surprised when it does! The process of observation and drawing from Nature is a good habit to develop.

## MATHEMATICS

There are a lot of days in this learning period and for these two weeks, please have your child count as far as they are able to. Keep a counting journal. Simply mark the date and how far your child counted each day for the next two weeks. Each day count a little more in increments that work for them. This week's lesson in counting has to do with being correct in progression of the numbers. If they say for instance 11,13 skipping 12, pause them and remind them.

In numbers we have gone through 1-10 as an introduction. A lot of children can count beyond that but do not know what the numbers look like. As this is a Waldorf - inspired curriculum, we are going to leave that for now and you may pick that up in First Grade. However, as your child most likely has 10 fingers and 10 toes, go ahead with counting to 20 using these parts of the body. The First Grade introduction to Mathematics in Waldorf Education is done very well. Waiting to do this is preferable to rushing it right now.

Do extend counting to other things such as flowers. Some children count to 5 easily, others recite to 100 with no problem. Do not worry either way with this. The important thing is to make it fun and fluid in repetition.

You can supplement counting with doing puzzles together. We just did a rather complicated one in enrichment. Start by teaching your child to sort all of the pieces by color. This bit of organization will help them with the valuable task of learning to create order. Make sure you take a picture at the end of your finished puzzle with your child in it.

Open ended wooden puzzles that a child creates with are also very nice. You can create another source for building by gathering every box you have. Tape them up, paint them and you have a new building possibility.

## STORY

A wonderful story for this moment when the Earth wakes up from Winter and Spring emerges is the book When the Root Children Wake up by Helen Dean Fish (Author) & Sibylle V. Olfers (Illustrator). It tells the story of the children waking up, painting all the insects and making colorful garments as they prepare to emerge from the shelter of Mother Earth into Springtime.

As well, I would recommend that you and your child visit our Reference Library at Twin Ridges Home Study. Together you can look through the story books and find one that you would like to read at home.

Created by Marguerite Vulfs March 2019