



Springtime Magic

Roaring in like a lion,
bouncing out like a lamb,
spring is making magic
over all the land.

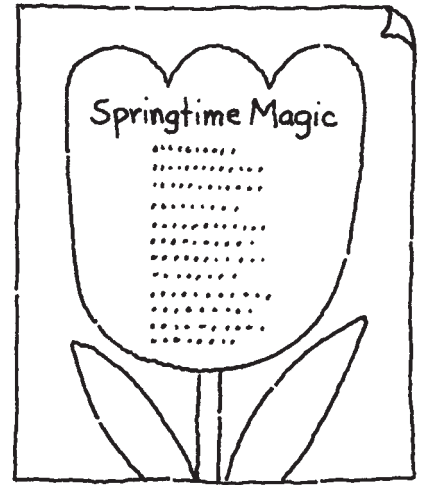
Pushing up the flowers,
painting on the leaves,
warming up the weather,
waking up the trees.

Bringing back the bluebirds,
spreading sunny cheer,
spring is making magic,
making winter disappear!

Springtime Magic

Introducing the Poem

- 🌀 Write the poem on chart paper. Draw the outline of a tulip around the words.
- 🌀 Have children help you come up with sounds and hand gestures to accompany a reading of the poem. For example, they can roar after reading the first line to suggest spring coming in like a lion. They can “bounce” like a lamb, wave a make-believe magic wand, swish a pretend paintbrush, and so on, to act out other lines.



Talking About the Poem

- 🌸 Ask students what it is about spring that seems magical to them. How do they feel when spring arrives? What do they see in nature or do on a spring day that makes them feel this way?
- 🌸 Talk about the first two lines of the poem. Have students ever heard the expression, “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb?” What do they think it means?
- 🌸 Ask children to help you find and underline all the words that end in *-ing*.
- 🌸 The letters *l*, *m*, *p*, *w*, *b*, and *s* are prominently featured in this poem. Invite children to help you hunt for and circle these letters at the beginning and endings of words.

Working With Words

Spring Things Match-Up: Cut pictures from magazines of “spring things” (for example, a flower, bird, kite, worm, rabbit). Glue these pictures to blank index cards. Write the corresponding word for each of the pictures on a separate index card. Mix up the cards and challenge students to match the picture cards with the word cards.

Shared Writing

Spring-y Sentences: Write the following sentence frame on the chalkboard several times:

Spring is _____ .

Ask children to name something they see or hear in the spring. Write this word on the second blank line. Then ask children to think of an *-ing* word that describes what this creature or thing does. Write the *-ing* word on the first blank line.

For example: Spring is wiggling worms.

(Continues)



Literature Links

Build students' enthusiasm for spring's arrival with these books, which all highlight the magical changes this season brings to the natural world:

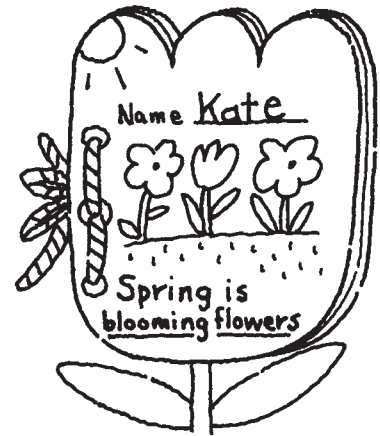
Mud Makes Me Dance in the Spring by Charlotte Agell (Tilbury House, 1994)

The Springs of Joy by Tasha Tudor (Simon & Schuster, 1998)

Spring's Sprung by Lynn Plourde (Simon & Schuster, 2002)

Springtime by Ann Schweninger (Penguin, 1995)

Continue to model writing as children provide new phrases to complete the frame. Then give each child a copy of the tulip pattern on page 49. (Photocopy the page onto heavyweight paper for added durability.) Help students complete the sentence frame on the pattern. Have students then illustrate their sentence, fill in their name, and cut out the tulip. Punch holes along the left edges of the tulips and bind them together to make a class shape-book. Glue a green tagboard stem and leaves to the back of the book so that the stem extends below the flower.



Extending the Poem

Welcome Spring! Banner

Children will enjoy creating a bold, beautiful banner to welcome spring.

Materials

- ✿ sheet of white bulletin board paper (about 6 to 8 feet long)
- ✿ colored markers
- ✿ tempera paints (in bright spring colors)
- ✿ paintbrushes
- ✿ assorted magazines
- ✿ scissors
- ✿ glue

- 1 Write *Welcome Spring!* in bubble letters on the bulletin board paper. Make the letters as large as possible.
- 2 Invite children to paint each letter a different color.
- 3 Have children look through the magazines and cut out pictures that remind them of spring.
- 4 After the paint has dried on the banner, invite children to glue the pictures inside the letters, trimming the pictures as needed.
- 5 Display your banner on a wall. Use it to spark discussions that are centered around what students like best about spring.





Name _____



Spring is
