

**Essential Questions:** How do plants and vegetables grow? Where do butterflies come from? Why are they important to each other?

### Vocabulary

Seed, plant, water, soil, fertilizer, metamorphosis, chrysalis, cocoon, pupa, pollination, bud, leaf

### Circle Time -

- **Songs & Prayer:** National Anthem (You Tube) or God Bless America (Children sing that at Morning Assembly), Pledge of Allegiance, Our Father, Hail Mary.
- **Calendar Awareness:** Hang a calendar at children's eye level - Discuss Month, Day and Date, Count number of days from 1<sup>st</sup> to current day, Read Story of choice, Discussion of the day's activities.
- **Practice Social Skill:** Deciding what to do. Write down plan for the day and check off activities as they are completed.

**Stories** – (Choose books on Topic, math, letter, multi-cultural/social, religious, non-fiction, science, poem)

- *The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss
- *A Sunflower Grows Up* by Melvin and Gilda Berger
- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- *First Discovery Butterflies* by Scholastic
- *I'm a Seed* by Jean Marzollo
- *Explore my world Nat Geo kids Butterflies* by Marfe Ferguson Delano
- *Bugillions a Book about Counting*
- *A Caterpillar Grows Up* by Melvin and Gilda Berger

**Beautiful Butterfly Hailku**  
by Ms. Natalie Loyacono  
*Hanging upside down, sleeping,  
growing  
Days go by I start to change  
Surprise! I'm a beautiful butterfly*

**Religion:** from Discovering God's Child/Bright Beginnings- Our Father, Song: Father, I Adore You

- **Bible Concept:** Jesus is My Friend and Helper
- **Stories:**
  - **Jesus Loves Children (Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16)**
  - **Woman at the Well (John 4:3-42)**
  - **Jesus love Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)**
  - **Jesus' Prayer (Matthew 6:5-13; Mark 1:35-37; Luke 11:1-4)**
  - **Attached Activities for Bible Concept**

### Social Skills: Deciding What to Do

- Steps: 1. Think about what you like to do.
2. Decide on one thing at a time.
3. Create a plan. (help children to prioritize favorite to least favorite)
4. Go Do it.

## Activities to Get You Moving!

- **Math-Sorting/Patterning activities:** Nature patterning with outdoor items that have been sorted by size, shape, color
- **Language-:** Have children dictate a story to you about a butterfly and a plant. (Ask open ended questions to children. "Tell me about ...", "What happened next....", "What would happen if....", "How could ...", etc.)  
Cut out and sequence the life cycles of seeds, and butterflies. **Attached activities**
- **Fine Motor-:** picking up items with tweezers and practice cutting: Use tweezers to pick up smallish items such as dry beans or leaves outside. Practice cutting up old magazine pictures or coupons. Cut out pictures from the grocery store flyer and use them for props in the dramatic play farmer's market.
- **Gross Motor-** Overhand throwing balls and beans bags into a bucket
- **Food and Nutrition-** Have children help prepare a garden salad with you for lunch. Discuss where the ingredients for your salad come from and point out healthy eating habits.
- **Music and Movement-:** *If I were a Butterfly* by Brian M. Howard ([available on You Tube](#))
- **Classical Music Selection-:** *Flight of the Bumblebee* by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov ([available on YouTube](#))
- **Self- Help/Health-** Pouring own water to drink from a small pitcher to a cup. Washing hands properly.
- **Outdoor activities-:** plant a vegetable garden with your children from seeds or the left-over cuttings from a vegetable; include butterfly-drawing plants and wildflowers and weeds to encourage butterflies to visit.
- **Block and Construction:** use large blocks or shoe boxes to build a barn, wooden or plastic farm animals, tractor and trucks to create a farm for growing plants
- **Dramatic Play-** Turn an area indoor into a farmer's market. Add baskets, bags, "produce" artificial or real. Add aprons, a shelf for produce display. Paper for making produce labels and prices. Money from the monopoly game, a cash register or shoe box for money. Recipe card for vegetables to use as a shopping list.
- **Science and Discovery-** What happens when you place the cut end of a carrot or lettuce in a cup of water? Ask children what their hypothesis is, write it down and hang it next to the cut vegetables. You can also use a sandwich size Ziploc bag. Wrap a dry bean in a damp paper towel and tape the bag to a sunny window. Keep the paper towel moist but not soggy. Observe and record with children what happens.
- **Table Games-** deck of cards. Remove the face cards. "War" - have children play a version of War where they must count the number of hearts, diamond, clovers, or spades on each card then compare which is larger.
- **Computer-** Virtual Field Trips to Gardens, vegetable farms and butterfly gardens are all available online and are age appropriate in length. Google pre-school virtual field trip and the description of what you would like to watch. These are just a few links.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pV-Xel1H8rk> Butterfly World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8M8siMqbVKA> Farm Foods

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY> The Very Hungry Caterpillar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O1S8WzwLPIM> Life Cycle of a Butterfly

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1GrO6UbaXY> Farmer's Market

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJuXpiEjdcc> 14 Store Bought Vegetables & Herbs you can Regrow

- **Creative Expression-** Nature items art collage or bracelet. Items gathered for the Nature Math sorting and patterning activity can be used to create art collages. Add paint, glue, tape, ribbon, etc and have fun!  
Create "Butterflies" with Clothespins, coffee filters and watercolor. Use eyes droppers (or other household items) to drop color on coffee filters after drying pinch coffee filter in middle and clip with clothespin.
- **Sensory-** Let's make Mud! Allow children to work in a bucket or pan. Slowly add water to dirt or sand and discuss the changes that are happening as they add more water or more sand. Ask open ended questions such as What would happen if... How could you... and Tell me about...