SPRING CURRICULUM

THEME:

Birds/seeds/new growth/sheep/wool

STORY:

**“**Little Brown Bulb” (Down, 2001) http://junipertreepuppets.com/little-brown-bulb-puppet- story-kit/

Curling up, stomping, crawling like beetle, lady bug, wriggling like worms

SONGS

**Spring is coming:** (Thienes-Schunemann, 2002) Spring is coming, spring is coming! Birdies build your nest, Weave together, straw and feather!

Each one doing your best!

**Little Plant:** (Thienes-Schunemann, 2002) In the heart of a seed buried deep so deep, A dear little plant lay fast asleep. “Wake!” said the Sunshine, “And creep to the light!” “Wake!” said the voice of the raindrops bright. And the little plant heard and rose to see, What a wonderful outside world might be.

**Way up in the Sky:**

Way up in the sky, the little birds fly; Way down in the nest, the little birds rest; With a wing on their left and a wing on their right;

*Children crouch curled up*

*Follow movements ending with turning Around to see the wonderful world do movements along with words*





The little birds go to sleep at night.

Then up comes the sun, and the dew melts away, “Good morning, good morning”, the little birds say.

**In the Spring Time Garden:** (Thienes-Schunemann, 2002) In the spring time garden, Rosy morning glow, Sunshine calling, falling, calling,

Flowers awake and grow. **Have You Seen the Mother Bird?** (Thienes-Schunemann, 2002)

Have you seen the mother bird? Singing in the rain Telling all the little birds Spring has come again.

**Growing Rhyme:**

A farmer once planted some little brown seeds, With a pit-a-pat, pit-a-pat, pit-a-pat, He watered them often and pulled up the weeds, With a tug-tug at this and a tug-tug at that,

The seeds they grew tall and green in the sun, ‘Till a beautiful flower grew from each one, With a hey-diddle Holding their heads high in the air!

**Five Little Seeds:**

Five little seeds a-sleeping they lay, A-sleeping they lay,

*Five children curl up on floor; child who* is *the bird stands on a footstool with*





A bird flew down and took one away; How many seeds were left? Four little seeds a-sleeping they lay.....

**A Little Brown Bulb:**

A little brown bulb lay asleep in the ground, In his little brown nightie he made not a sound. King Winter, he roared and he raged overhead, But the little brown bulb never stirred in his bed. But when spring came tiptoeing over the lea With finger to lips, as soft as can be, The little brown bulb just lifted his head, Slipped off his nightie, and jumped out of bed!

**Garden Plot:**

This is my wee garden plot

I’ll rake it with care and it will grow a lot!

Peas and carrots and salad from seeds

I’ll plant and water and pull out the weeds.

The sun will shine and bathe my garden in light,

All the plants will be happy and taste just right!

Here, taste some, have a bite!

*chew*

**Bluebird:**

*Begin with one hand out flat with other fist on top as bluebird.*Bluey, bluey bluebird sits in a tree *Thumb protrudes as bluebird.* Bluey, bluey bluebird nods at me *Nod thumb.*

*arms outstretched, jumps down/flies One seed child away etc..........*

FINGER PLAYS

*Extend palm, point to it with other index finger Rake with spread fingers & stroke over palm*

*Poke index finger around palm to plant seeds Extend thumb from fist to pour; pinch palm - weed*

*Flex and contract fingers. Face palms up and wiggle fingers Push fingers of one hand up through others -*





Bluey, bluey bluebird chirps “good day” *Tap thumb and index finger together to chirp* Spreads his wings and flies away! *Clasp thumbs and wave fingers to “fly away*

Using the story, have the children crawl, creep, balance, jump etc. This is an opportunity to draw upon one’s knowledge of the stages of developmental movement and incorporate those early movement patterns into the children’s daily routine. Studies show that most, if not all, children would benefit from these movement activities each day. (Blythe, 2004) (Kranowitz, 1998)

**Five Tiny Fairies:**

“Five tiny fairies hiding in a flower; (Children crouch on knees, curled up tight, colored silk over them)

Five tiny fairies caught in a shower. (Children pat and rap fingers on ground to make shower sound)

Daddy cock-a-doodle standing on one leg; (They all stand on one leg with hands tucked under arms like wings)

Old mother speckled-top lays a golden egg; (Crouch down like a hen laying an egg)

Old Mrs. Crosspatch comes with a stick; Fly away fairies, quick, quick, quick!” (clap hands 3 times). (One child is Mrs. Crosspatch who chases the children then closes her eyes while they hide; then she comes to find them.)

**My Mother Said:** (both hands on top of head, shoulders, clap friends, repeat rhythmically)

“My mother said, I never should, play with the fairies in the wood. They dance with fire, they roll in hay, they’ll steal your heart and run away.”

ACTIVITIES

1. **Plant bulb** in jar with rocks and water or soil
2. **Magic Tufty Cones**: grass seed sprinkled on wet pine cones, sprayed with water
3. **Rainbow Fairies:** colored silk squares with small ball of wool in center, tied to form head
4. **Magic Wool**: clean sheep wool, rubbed on bees wax colored paper
5. **Bird Table:** slice of wood, sanded, three holes drilled; string threaded through and tied  together.
6. **Tissue Butterflies:** Two layers of butterfly shaped tissue, with pipe cleaner twisted body
7. Prepare garden and plant pea seeds
8. Make wattle garden fences from branches and prepare compost bins