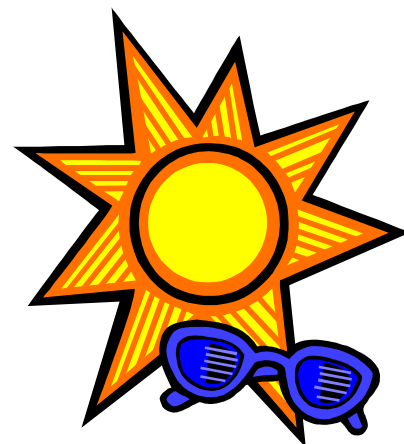




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# Preschool Theme Kits

# SUMMER



## BOX CONTENTS

### BOOKS

**In the Tall, Tall Grass**

*Denise Fleming*

**Ferryboat Ride**

*Anne Rockwell*

**One Summer Day**

*Kim Lewis*

**How Do You Know It's  
Summer?**

*Allan Fowler*

**Harry by the Sea**

*Gene Zion*

**The Relatives Came (Book with  
CD)**

*Cynthia Rylant*

**Jesse Bear, What Will You  
Wear?**

*Nancy Carlstrom*

**Vegetable Garden**

*Douglas Florian*

**Five Little Ducks**

*Raffi*

### AUDIO CDs

**Four Seasons: Summersongs**

*John McCutcheon*

**Rise and Shine**

*Raffi*

### TOY

**5 Little Duck puppets**

### ADULT RESOURCES

**Busy Bees Summer**

*Elizabeth McKinnon*

### ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK

### BEYOND THE KITS STORYTIME HANDBOOK

Welcome to the *Summer* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

## *Related Activities*

FOR YOU: a copy of these activities is available in back of this notebook.

### *-Fun and Games-*

#### HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S SUMMER?

After reading **How Do You Know It's Summer?** have a discussion with the children about what they notice and do that's summery: clothes, activities, warmer weather, plant life. You can write down each of their responses, including some from the book, and make a summer mural, or individual pages to put into a class book. It is especially good to talk about the fun you can have close to home/ daycare, during the summer.

#### SUMMER: TIME TO PLAY

Children can spend hours playing in sand and/or water. If you do not have a sand/water table, you can substitute a very large plastic bin, available in many outlet stores or craft stores (like "under-the-bed" boxes). Fill with a couple of bags of play sand, available from hardware and home improvement stores. Make a variety of plastic containers, shovels, rakes, pouring toys, cars, and trucks available to the children. Lather them up with sunscreen and/or provide some shade. *Alternative:* fill with water and bubbles, pouring toys, and boats.

*\*Used with permission from King County Library System.*

#### CHALK GAMES \*

Set up the following games with sidewalk chalk:

- Squiggly lines for children to balance on.
- Small square path for children to jump along.
- Giant square for children to jump in and out of; or bounce a ball into and out of.
- Tracks to ride vehicles on.
- Straight or curvy lines to kick a ball along.
- Giant shapes to toss beanbags into.

*Alternative:* Make a chalk village. Let the children take out small cars, trucks, boats, planes, and people to play with. Let them help design and draw the village and environs.

#### BUSY BEES : FUN FOR (MORE THAN) TWO'S AND THREE'S

While the adult resource says it is for 2 and 3 year olds, there are many fabulous activities that your older children will enjoy too. Take a look at "Ants" (p. 54-55): observing ants outdoors, moving like ants, ant poems and an "ant" snack. Or "Wheels" (p. 80-81), with a counting activity, a parade on wheels, rhymes and songs. These will be fun for everyone.

## STORY BOOK PICNIC

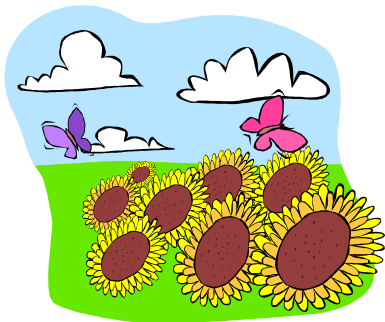
Take a blanket, towel, or sheet and a basket of books outside (but don't forget them!) You can read one, or let everybody pick a favorite and lounge around on the blanket "reading". We've all known the pleasure of lying leisurely in the sun with a good book!

## FIVE LITTLE DUCKS

Puppets included in this kit can be used with this poem. Also put on the Rise and Shine CD and let children use them that way.

You may want to make a mother duck to go with the little ones, using the pattern included in this notebook.

Five little ducks went out to play  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack quack quack"  
And four little ducks came waddling back.  
And three, two, one, no ...  
No little ducks came out to play  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack quack quack"  
And five little ducks came waddling back!



## SUNFLOWER CRAFT IDEAS

Bring in a real sunflower, available in the summer where flowers and produce are sold. Talk about its different parts: stem, petals, center full of seeds.

Then make your own flowers using any of the following materials:

- yellow or white paper plates
- paper towel rolls for stems
- real sunflower seeds to glue into the center of the flower
- yellow and green construction paper for petals and leaves

Summer Theme Kit

## Questions or Suggestions:

Call the Youth Services Dept.  
at (360) 384-3150

## -Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-

### THIS IS THE WAY WE PLANT

To tune of Mulberry Bush, to sing and act out.

This is the way we plant the seeds, etc.  
This is the way we rake the garden, etc.  
This is the way we pull the weeds, etc.  
This is the way we water the plants, etc.  
This is the way we harvest the ... carrots, etc.  
This is the way we wash the carrots, etc.  
This is the way we eat the carrots, etc.

### MY GARDEN

Fingerplay or full body action rhyme. For full body, suit actions to words.

This is my garden  
I'll rake it with care  
And then some flower seeds  
I'll plant there.  
The sun will shine  
And the rain will fall.  
My garden will blossom  
And grow straight and tall.

### FIVE PRETTY SUNFLOWERS

Five pretty sunflowers are standing  
In the sun  
*Hold up 5 fingers*  
Now their heads are nodding  
*Bend fingers slightly*  
And bowing one by one.  
Down, down, down, down,  
Comes the gentle rain.  
*Raise hands, wiggle fingers for gently falling rain.*  
And the five pretty sunflowers  
Lift up their heads again.  
*Hold up 5 fingers again.*  
  
*Repeat, with all ten fingers this time.*

### FIVE SUNFLOWERS

The children can act this out, using sunflowers made from paper plates with the middle cut out and yellow petals drawn or pasted around the outside edge. Make a "sun" plate, and rain streamers to come in on cue. The sunflowers begin crouched down low.

Five little sunflowers growing in the ground,  
Five little sunflowers yellow and brown,  
The sun began to shine,  
The rain began to fall,  
Five little sunflowers grew up tall.



As fingerplay

*One hand out, palm up  
Rake fingers of other hand over  
Push finger "into" palm,  
planting several.  
Two hands circle for sun  
Fingers rain down.  
Using fists for "blossoms", open  
and raise high above head.*

### IN THE SUMMER \*\*

Suit actions to words.

In the summer  
I'm a runner.  
I'm a leaper.  
I'm a jumper.  
I'm a player  
I'm a rider.  
I'm an always-stay-outsider!  
  
I'm a romper.  
I'm a camper  
I'm a pitcher.  
I'm a catcher.  
I'm a swimmer.  
I'm a diver.  
In the summer, I'm alive!

*\*\*Activity courtesy of the Early Childhood Office of the Seattle Public Library.*

## How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.