

Spring Things

by Bob Raczka

Simple rhymes using “ing” words describe spring and its many happy activities.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, “*Ing*” is an ending that we can add to words (verbs) so others know that it is being done right now. For example, “I read” is different from “I am reading.” When “ing” is on the end, you know I am doing it right now. Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder why that little girl is upside-down?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions. Talk about the “ing” ending and what is left of the word if you remove the “ing” ending.

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Seeing a red bird is a sign of spring. What are some others?
- What is the weather usually like in March? April? May?
- Farmers plant their crops in the spring. What are some crops that they plant?
- Has anyone ever played hopscotch?
- Kites come in all sizes and shapes. What do the weather conditions have to be like in order to fly a kite?
- Has anyone ever set up a lemonade stand?
- Does anyone have a vegetable garden?

Do

Practic“ing”

After reading, ask the children to add “ing” to different words (word bank below or you can use your own). Take turns and really emphasize the “ing” ending.

| | | | |
|--------|-------|---------|-------|
| read | write | listen | hear |
| dance | sing | whistle | march |
| bounce | jump | kick | zoom |
| drop | hug | fix | mix |
| save | break | pass | lock |
| yell | grab | play | walk |

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