

# Miriam's activities

Miriam Schmidt - BECT member suggests activity ideas for you to use at your playgroup

## Activity 1 Daffodil Collage

**Song:** "When the daffodils dance in the sun and the rain, then we know that the spring time is coming again..."

- Cut out strips of green paper for stems and leaves.
- Cut out flower petal shapes.
- Children paste stems, leaves and flower shapes onto paper, and paste a patty pan in the centre of each flower shape for the daffodils' trumpets.

They look particularly effective pasted onto black paper.

**Variation:** make the paper flower head only and tape a drinking straw onto the back of each to make a bunch of daffodils!

## Activity 3 Hairy Caterpillar

It's fun to do some planting and to see things grow.

- Cut an egg carton in half, lengthwise.
- Dip cotton wool balls in water and put a couple in the bottom of each carton segment.
- Sprinkle with wheat or birdseed.
- Use a pipe-cleaner or bread ties for feelers.
- At home: keep it very moist and place it in a sunny spot inside and watch it grow.

**NOTE:** If it is put outside at this stage, it will attract the birds, etc. However, after it has grown, it can be planted in the soil and it may even grow some ears of wheat. This can lead to talking about flour and bread-making.

## Theme: Spring

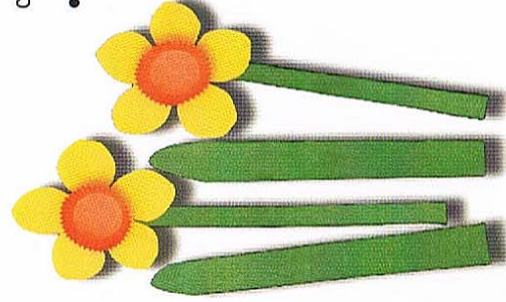
### Activity 2 Busy Bees

"...busy bees love to visit all the flowers in the garden, to collect the nectar to make into honey!"

- Prepare TWO bee shapes for each child, punching two holes in the head for feelers.

Either photocopy the complete bee with markings and then cut out the shapes, or use a PERMANENT marker to draw the bee markings on each shape.

- Use tape to stick a fairy floss stick or similar onto the back of ONE of the shapes. Make sure that the stick covers most of the shape.
- Paste the second shape over the top of the first shape, covering the stick, so that the bee becomes double sided.
- Using a transparent type yellow paint, e.g. wall paper paste mixed with food dye, paint both sides of the bee.
- Hang it up to dry and then thread a pipecleaner through the holes for the feelers.



- 1 Give each child a rectangle of coloured cellophane.
- 2 Children stick coloured stickers onto the cellophane.
- 3 Scrunch up the centre to make the wings.
- 4 Secure with a spring clothes peg.
- 5 Thread a pipecleaner through the peg for the feelers.

**Variation:** follow steps 1 to 3 above, then use some tape to fix the wings onto a piece of cardboard roll about the size of a toilet roll. Add pipe-cleaner feelers, then cut the paper roll from top to bottom to split it apart. The children can wear the butterflies on their wrists.

Activity 4

Fun With Stickers: Butterfly