



**INFANTS** – With Spring in the air, this is a good time to let the babies feel the breeze on their skins and feel the warmth of the sun. If the ground is damp, put an old shower curtain down and cover with blanket. If you are using this for tummy time, be sure and watch carefully as the infants may bunch up the covers and get their faces down in it (increasing the risk of a SIDS incident). Hang wind chimes where they can hear the sound with the breeze. Older infants that are sitting may enjoy watching bubbles being blown.

**Toddlers** – Spring time is calling. Take the toddlers out and let them work off some of that boundless energy. Unless you have limited time on the playground (because of having to share), do as much as possible outside. Blow bubbles and let them chase them, play “Swat the Fly”, scatter plastic eggs around and have them find the eggs and bring them to a basket/clothes basket and toss them in.

**Pre-Schoolers** – Move the classroom outdoors. Circle time can be done on a blanket in the yard. Art work can be done in a big way. Hang newsprint or other large pieces of paper on the fence or wall and let the children use large brushes (like the ones used to paint walls) to paint. Painting the brick walls with water can be fun (with no mess!) and be done over and over as the water dries. Go exploring and looking for plants beginning to come up, bugs coming out, birds at the feeders. If you have a garden area, let the children help get it ready for planting. If you don’t have one, think about making one. Many plants (especially flowers) can be grown in containers. I’ve seen many different things used for planting. If you have a chain link fence, think about having parents bring in old, outgrown or worn out shoes. These can be filled with potting soil and hung from the fence. Try plantings that will bring in butterflies and hummingbirds for even more interest. Swallowtail butterflies like to lay their eggs on dill and parsley. It is fascinating to watch the caterpillars grow. I plant curly leafed parsley among my flowers for the caterpillars (I think it’s prettier than the flat leafed).