

May
Nursery Rhyme

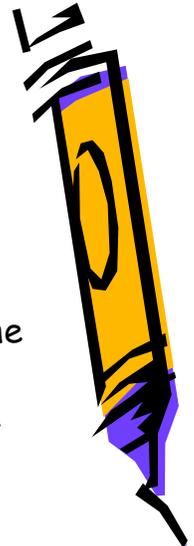
Mary, Mary,
Quite Contrary

Mary, Mary,
quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?

With silver bells
and cockle shells,
and pretty maids
all in a row.



May Activities



Sequencing

Design, color, and cut sequence cards that show the stages of plant growth. Begin with the seed, then show it under ground, then sprouting and then as a young plant. Arrange them in the correct order.

Plant a Garden

Use any available small plot of land, small bowls, or flower pots. Visit the local nursery, hardware, or retail store and buy some seeds of vegetables and flowers. Cucumbers, pumpkins, and zucchini are very easy to grow as are a number of flowers such as geraniums, pansies, and marigolds.



You may want to consult the internet or a gardening book with the children to demonstrate how information can be found in books and used. You can also visit the Rose Garden on East Main Street in Richmond.

Count and Sort

Count and sort different kinds of seeds using egg cartons for sorting boxes. Children can write the numbers from 1-12 in the egg carton cups or on a strip of paper that stands up in each cup. Then using the seeds, put the correct number into each one.

Flower making

Make flowers by using buttons, cupcake papers, yarn, string, foil, scissors, glue, crayons, paper tissue, and other materials you have around the house.

Encourage children to be creative and imaginative. Hang the flowers or put them in vases so others can enjoy them too.



?? Contrary ??

Contrary means unwilling to accept advice. Discuss the word "Contrary" and contrary behaviors. Ask how children feel when they are acting contrary and how it feels when others act contrary to them. Use dolls, puppets, or stuffed animals to role-play situations in which someone is acting contrary.

Children learn best in the context of a loving relationship. These activities are designed for children and adults to do together. Children should be encouraged to do as much as they safely can by themselves. There should be a lot of lively discussion accompanying these activities.