

Resources from March 4th Webinar Working Outdoors with Young Children in Spring

Inside-Outside, NINPA, MnECO, Natural Start Alliance, AUNE websites:

- [Inside-Outside](#)
- [NINPA](#)
- [MNECO \(Minnesota Early Childhood Outdoors\)](#)
- [Natural Start Alliance](#)
- [VT Early Learning Standards](#)
- [Antioch University New England](#), Nature-based Early Childhood Certificate
- [Nature-Based Early Childhood Education for All](#)
- [Intellectual Benefits of Outdoor Learning](#)
- [Social Emotional Benefits of Outdoor Learning](#)
- <https://www.czs.org/naturestart>

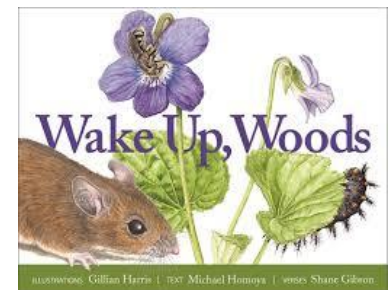


Safety and Healthy Risk Taking

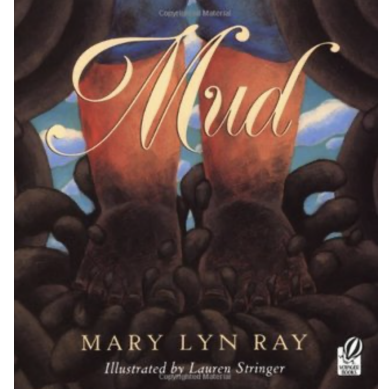
- [Safety and Healthy Risk Taking](#) recording
- [Risk Management for Nature-Based Early Childhood](#) week long summer course

Spring Books:

- o Everything Spring by Jill Esbaum
- o Wake Up, Woods by Shane Gibson
- o Mud by Mary Lyn Ray
- o Abracadabra, It's Spring! By Anne Sibley O'Brien
- o Come on, Rain! By Karen Hesse
- o When Spring Comes by Kevin Henkes
- o A Drop of Water by Gordon Morrison
- o Gilberto and the Wind by Marie Hall Ets
- o Hide and Seek Fog by Alvin Tresselt
- o Muddypaws by Moira Butterfield
- o Rain by Robert Kalan
- o Rain Feet by Angela Johnson
- o The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle
- o The Umbrella by Jan Brett
- o Umbrella by Taro Yashima
- o Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring by Kenard Pak
- o I See Something...Green by Marsha Bergstrom Georgiopoulos
- o Maple by Lori Nichols
- o Honey Rabbit by Margo Hopkins
- o Lost in the Woods by Carl R. Sams II & Jean Stoick
- o Flower Garden by Eve Bunting
- o The Golden Glow by Benjamin Flouw



- Spring Song by Barbara Seuling
- Wonderful Worms by Linda Glaser
- Sorting through Spring by Lizann Flatt
- Maple Syrup from the Sugarhouse - Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton
- When Will it Be Spring - Catherine Walters
- Sugarbush Spring - Marsha Wilson Chall
- A Quiet Place - Douglas Wood
- Almost Time - Gary Schmidt
- An Egg is Quiet - Diana Hutts Aston
- A Nest is Noisy - Diana Hutts Aston
- Big Night for Salamanders - Sarah Marwil Lamstein



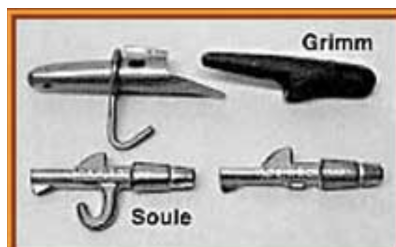
Activities:



*I use gel food coloring as it is stronger than regular food dye.

Tapping trees:

Here are a couple examples of spiles:



- [A cloth measuring tape](#) - cheap & can be used for hundreds of different things, including measuring the circumference & height of a tree trunk for tapping...
- [How to Make Maple Syrup the Traditional Way](#)
- [How to Make a Spile](#) - thanks to our friend Caylin Gans at [Forest Schooled](#)
- An example of a hand drill that young children can safely (and over time easily) manage and manipulate - [Fiskar Hand Drill](#)



Spring Songs:

- I Love My Dandelions CD by Annie Nixon. <https://annienixon.com/>
- Dany Rosevear: <http://www.singinggamesforchildren.com/>
- Sap Time by Steve Schuch - https://www.nightheron.com/trees_activityguidesaptime.html
- Spring Ephemeral Flowers by Heidi Wilson - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DRLf0RKUFM>
- I have made a pretty nest song - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=do-BIxaNRuw>
- Celebrate the rain falling down by Alice DiMicele - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eB0Y9B2xDQ0>

Black Birch (or Yellow Birch) Tea Recipe:

*Adapted from "[The Outside Story](#)"

You can make a very nice wintergreen-flavored tea from peeled black or yellow birch twigs! Recommended method: gather a few quart-sized, wide-mouth Mason jars and fill them with lukewarm water. Using a carrot peeler or pocket knife, peel about three or four dozen birch twigs. Add as many peeled twigs and peelings to the jars as possible. Put lids on jars and let them rest for a day or two. Enjoy!

Gear:

- Good rain/waterproof gear- [Oakiwear](#)
- Light Waterproof bib pants for staff: <https://www.uddertechinc.com/collections/bibs-pants/products/waterproof-bibbed-overalls-1?variant=25674332102>
- Heavy Duty bib pants for staff: <https://grundens.com/>

Tools:

- Child-sized [garden tools](#)
- [Colorful duct tape](#) to mark tools so they can be found in snow and mud and helps keep them "organized".
- [Clear easel example](#) (a family built one for our school)

All other relevant spring related resources:

- [Nature-Based Learning for Young Children: Anytime, Anywhere, on Any Budget](#) book co-authored by panelist Sheila Williams Ridge (how to start small or go big with nature indoors and outdoors)
- [The Wild Weather Book: Loads of things to do outdoors in rain, wind and snow](#) by fiona danks and jo schofield.