

Spring's Sprung

by Lynn Plourde

Mother Earth wakens her daughters, March, April and May so they can sing their song which reflects the characteristics of their month. The universal experience of sibling rivalry is also demonstrated.



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, *Spring occurs during three months – March, April and May. In this book, there are three sisters and they are named after the spring months.* 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 if the hair on the girl in the middle is supposed to look like clouds?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *Spring's Sprung*

- rouses: to wake somebody up
- nudge: poke gently
- practical: appropriate and sensible
- fussy: concerned with minor things
- bickering: to argue
- monsoon: rainy season
- scales: a series of musical notes
- serenades: to sing a love song to somebody
- soprano: to sing in a high voice
- trill: a high-pitched warbling sound
- swoons: to feel faint with joy
- squabble: to argue noisily over something unimportant

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Who can tell me which months are included in spring?
- Why do these sisters want to be faster and sing better than each other?
- March winds...what are some words we can use to describe how the wind blows?
- April showers...what are some words we can use to describe how it rains?
- May flowers...let's see how many different flowers we can name.
- Is it silly for these sisters to argue over who Mother Earth loves the best?
- So, if March winds bring April showers and April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? June bugs!

Do

What Month Is It?

Sing like sisters March, April, and May! Learn the months of the year by singing them to the tune of "Ten Little Indians."

January, February, March, and April

May, June, July, August, and September

October, November and December

These are the months of the year.