

This book follows a brother and sister around a farm as they notice all the living things around them.

CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES

INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES

THINK



Children will:

- ◆ Observe and predict how things work

Teachers will:

- ◆ Promote Predictions

TEACHING TIP

Inquiry goes beyond active exploration and into answering specific questions. Children need time to observe, experiment, and analyze something in order to better understand it, and those opportunities should happen frequently throughout the day. Coming to new conclusions involves purposeful actions, like splashing in a puddle, and using reasoning to predict outcomes, like what else would cause a splash. You can use books to engage children in this cycle of observation, prediction, and conclusion by narrating the events and illustrations in a book and encouraging children to make their own observations.

1. INTRODUCE

- ◆ “Today we’re going to go explore a garden with a family. Let’s see what we can find that is growing and moving in the garden. The book we’re reading is called *Everything Grows*. I wonder what you’ll notice in the pictures.”

2. READ THE BOOK

- ◆ Pause occasionally to comment on your own observations and predictions about the illustrations.
- ◆ Encourage children to make predictions about things they see in the garden.

Promote Predictions

Read: “Babies do, animals too (*first time*)”

Comment: “The children are spotting different things that live and grow in a garden. They are pointing to things that they see.”

Encourage: “What do you think this child is pointing to? Where do you think that butterfly is going?”

Read: “That’s how it goes”

Comment: “I see people working in the garden. Maybe that person is using dirt to help the plants grow.”

Encourage: “What else do you see in this garden that is growing? I see a bunny. What do you think the bunny will do in the garden?”

Read: “Under the rain”

Comment: “I see two friends, it looks like they are digging to plant something in the ground.”

Encourage: “What do you think will happen when the children water the plants?”

3. REVIEW

- ◆ “So many things live and grow in a garden. We can watch and try to guess what will happen next to plants and animals that all live together.”

4. KEEP IT GOING

- ◆ Incorporate open-ended questions throughout your daily routine. Try to allow children to guess and test out questions themselves, instead of always giving them an answer or doing things for them. Especially when it’s time for free choice play or outside time, encourage children to investigate the world around them by wondering aloud and testing specific ideas out.