

Activities

Here are some activities you can implement in your classrooms that connect to the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS).

Feeding the Birds

CD-SC5.3a Participates in efforts to protect the environment.

Help the children make bird feeders out of pine cones by rolling the pine cones in a mixture of vegetable shortening and bird seeds. Attach strings to the tops of the pine cones and hang them from trees or fence for a fun way to encourage bird watching.

Exploring Collard Greens, Turnip Greens, and Mustard Greens

PDM4.3a Uses senses purposefully to learn about objects.

Give children an assortment of leaves and use the 5 senses to explore the different types of greens. What do the leaves look like? What do the leaves feel like? What do the leaves smell like? What do the leaves sound like? What do the leaves taste like? What is similar about the leaves? What is different about the leaves?

Stone Soup

APL5.2b Helps and shares in a social setting with adult guidance.

Read *Stone Soup* by Heather Forest. Discuss the story and how sharing helped everyone get what they needed. Have children bring in one vegetable from home to make stone soup. A recipe can be found in the back of the book.

Baking Bread

CD-SC4.1c Shows interest and curiosity about objects in his/her immediate environment. Explores solids and liquids.

Read *Everybody Bakes Bread* by Norah Dooley. Explain to the children that you will be making bread together today. Let the children take turns measuring ingredients, and use the opportunity to discuss recipes, measuring, and the baking process. Ingredients: 1 ¾ cup warm water; 1 tbsp. active dry yeast; 2-3 tbsp. of sugar; 1 tsp. salt; ¼ cup vegetable oil; 4-5 cups flour (mix of wheat and white; Mix yeast, sugar, and warm water in a large mixing bowl and let sit for 5 minutes. Stir in handful of flour. Stir in salt and oil. Add remaining flour one cup at a time to ensure you don't make dough too dry. Knead dough

until it forms a ball. Place the dough in a bowl, cover with a damp cloth, and let rise in a warm place. Divide dough into dinner roll pieces, have children knead the dough into any shape, and place on cookie sheet. Bake at 375 for 10-15 minutes until golden brown.

Nature Walk

CD-SC3.1a Interacts with plants and animals.

Take the children on a nature walk and encourage them to find items such as leaves, rocks, pine cones, and branches. Provide a large plastic bag for them to drop their items into. Name and describe the characteristics of each item they place in the bag.