# **Resources for a Seasons Storytime**

## **Resource Books**

# Starting With Stories: Engaging Multiple Intelligences Through Children's Books

by Pam Schiller and Pat Phipps

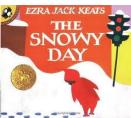
Pam Schiller's Starting With Stories is an excellent resource to use in developing storytimes for the diverse audiences you will encounter in public libraries.

Apples Here! Pages 26-27 The Mitten Pages 134-135

Pages 170-171 Right Outside My Window

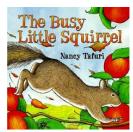
# **Books**



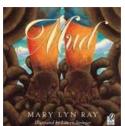
























#### Winter

Snowballs by Lois Ehlert The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats The Mitten by Jan Brett

#### Fall

Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert Busy Little Squirrel by Nancy Tafuri Fall is Not Easy by Marty Kelley

#### Spring

Mud by Mary Lyn Ray Splish, Splash, Spring by Jan Carr Hooray for Spring by Patricia Hubbell

#### Summer

One Hot Summer Day by Nina Crews Come On, Rain! By Karen Hesse Mama, Is It Summer Yet? By Nikki McClure Summer Beat by Betsy Franco

# Songs and Fingerplays

#### **Winter**

#### Dance Like Snowflakes...

(Frere Jacques)
Dance like snowflakes, Dance like snowflakes,
In the air. In the air.
Whirling, twirling snowflakes,
Whirling, twirling snowflakes,
Here and there. Here and there.

#### **Snowflakes**

Did You Ever See a Lassie
There's a snowflake on my shoulder
my shoulder
my shoulder
There's a snowflake on my shoulder
and it's melting away!
There's a snowflake on my elbow . . .
There's a snowflake on my tummy . . .
There's a snowflake on my knee . . .
There's a snowflake on my head . . .
Tip: Use cottonballs for snowflakes.

#### I'm A Little Snow Person

I'm A Little Teapot
I'm a little snow person,
Short and fat.
Here are my buttons,
Here is my hat.
When the sun comes out,
I cannot stay.
Slowly I just melt away.

# **Snowflakes Falling Down**

Row, row, row Your Boat Snowflakes falling down, Falling to the ground. Big, white fluffy flakes That do not make a sound.

## **Five Little Snowmen**

5 little snowmen all in a row (hold up 5 fingers)
Each with a hat (put hands on head)
And a big red bow (make a bow-tying motion at your neck)
Up came the sun and it stayed all day (raise arms in a circle)
And one little snowman melted away (hold up index finger and "melt" it away)

### <u>Fall</u>

# **Falling Leaves**

London Bridge
See the leaves come falling down,
Twirling round to the ground.
They drift down and make no sound
On this golden day.

# Leaves, Leaves

Row, Row, Row Your Boat
Leaves, leaves, falling down,
Falling on the ground.
Red and yellow, orange and brown,
Leaves are falling down.

### **Autumn Winds**

(Ring around the Rosie)
Autumn Winds begin to blow
Colored leaves fall fast and slow
Whirling Twirling all around
Till at last they touch the ground

(Cut out different colored leaves Sway like a tree throughout the song and drop leaves Pickup leaves by color.)

#### **Little Leaves**

Ten Little Indians
1 little 2 little, 3 little leaves,
4 little, 5 little, 6 little leaves,
7 little, 8 little, 9 little leaves,
Blow them all away. WHOOF!

#### **Four Little Leaves**

Four little leaves high in a tree,
One fell off and then there were three.
Three bright leaves covered in dew,
Another jumped off, and then there were two.
Two trembling leaves looking for fun,
"I'm off said two, and then there was one.
One last leaf hanging by a thread
Said, "Jumping off is something I dread."
Then shoosh went the wind and off flew the leaf.
Now the jumping is over. What a relief!

#### **Spring**

## Rain Song

First a little drop of rain hit the ground (tap, tap)
Then another drop of rain hit the ground (tap, tap)
Then another and another and another,
And pretty soon we hear a different sound. (splash, splash!)

#### Did You Ever See a Cloud?

Did you ever see a cloud A cloud, a cloud? Did you ever see a cloud That looked like a bear? A big one, a little one, A lazy one, a funny one?

Did you ever see a cloud That looked like a bear?

Did you ever see a cloud A cloud, a cloud? Did you ever see a cloud That looked like a plane? A big one, a little one, A fast one, a slow one, Did you ever see a cloud That looked like a plane?

#### 5 Fat Peas

5 fat peas in a pea pod pressed. 1 grew 2 grew and so did all the rest They grew and they grew and wouldn't stop They grew so fast that the pea pod popped!

#### Flower Garden

The Farmer In The Dell
The farmer plants the seeds
The Farmer plants the seeds
Hi, Ho and Cheery O
The farmer plants the seeds.
(Use the following verses.)
The sun begins to shine...
The rain begins to fall...
The plants begin to grow...
The flowers smile at us...

## **Little Seed**

Little seed in the ground *Crouch down on floor, hands covering head*Sitting so still *Stay crouching*Little seed will you sprout?
Yes, I will! *Jump up* 

#### **Plant Parts**

Flowers, leaves, stems, and roots, stems and roots, Flowers, leaves, stems, and roots, stems and roots, Please don't sneeze, there's pollen in the breeze! Flowers, leaves, stems, and roots, stems and roots,

#### <u>Summer</u>

# I Went To The Beach

I went to the beach And what did I see? A bird on the sand Looking at me!

Using fingers- make thumb and index finger touch each other making a birds beak

I went to the beach

And what did I see?

A fish in the water Using hand and make it like a fish swimming

Splashing at me! I went to the beach And what did I see?

A shell in the sand Make one fist with one hand and have the other

Sparkling at me! finger tap top of fist

I went to the beach
And what did I see? Make a crab using all 10 fingers(place hand over
A crab in its shell
Waving at me!

#### At The Beach

I dig holes in the sand with my fingers, (Wiggle fingers.)
I dig holes in the sand with my toes, (Wiggle toes.)
Then I pour some water in the holes, (Pretend to pour water.)
I wonder where it goes? (Hold hands out to sides, palms up.)

#### Waves at the Beach

Wheels on the Bus

The waves at the beach go up and down, up and down, up and down, the waves at the beach go up and down, all day long.

The crabs at the beach, crawl back and forth, back and forth, back and forth,

The crabs at the beach, crawl back and forth, all day long.

The lobsters at the beach go, snap, snap, snap, snap, snap, snap, snap, snap, snap

The lobsters at the beach go snap snap snap, all day long

The clams at the beach will open and shut, open and shut, open and shut,

The clams at the beach will open and shut, all day long.

The jelly fish go wibble, wobble, wibble, wibble, wibble, wibble, wibble, wibble, wibble,

The jelly fish go wibble, wibble, wibble, all day long.

# Flannelboards and Props

#### Winter

• Rhyme-Time Snowman: Use an enlarged copy of the rhyming cards. Then cut out the cards and glue each one to a different white circle cutout. Decorate a separate white circle cutout so it resembles a snowman's head. Place the head on the floor along with the prepared circles. Then gather youngsters around the cutouts. Invite a volunteer to choose a circle, name the picture, and then find its matching picture rhyme. Next, have him place the circles under the snowman's head so they resemble the middle and bottom part of the body. Lead the class in the chant shown. Then remove the circles and repeat the process.

"Words that rhyme are fun, you see. Here's a snowman: one, two, three!"

#### Snow Balls

"Frere Jacques"
Great big ball, great big ball,
Made of snow, made of snow.

Rolling down the street, Landing at my feet. (Place large circle on flannelboard) Great big ball, great big ball.

Medium sized ball, medium sized ball, Made of snow, made of snow. Rolling down the street, Landing at my feet. (Place medium circle on flannelboard) Medium sized ball, medium sized ball.

Teeny tiny ball, teeny tiny ball, Made of snow, made of snow. Rolling down the street,

Landing at my feet.

(Place small circle face side down on flannelboard)

Teeny tiny ball, teeny tiny ball.

Three round balls, three round balls, Made of snow, made of snow. Watch my snow pal grow, As up the snowballs go.

(Place the circles one above the other, with the small circle face side up, make a snowman.)

One, two, three; one, two, three.

**Slippery Sledding:** To prepare for this activity, make a simple construction paper sled. Then ready the sled and five penguin cutouts for flannelboard use. Place each penguin on your flannelboard above the sled. Lead little ones in reciting the rhyme shown, having a child remove one penguin from the flannelboard when appropriate. Repeat the thyme until there are no penguins left on the sled.

> Five little penguins, sliding on a sled. One fell off and bumped his head. Mama called the doctor, and the doctor said, "No more penguins sliding on the sled!"

Itsy Bitsy Snowflake: Sing to the tune of "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" with snowflake stick puppet.

> The itsy-bitsy snowflake Fell down from the sky It landed on my nose And it bounced upon my eye. It slid down to my chin

*Hold up the puppet.* Move the puppet as if it's falling. Touch puppet to nose. Place puppet in front of eye. Slide puppet down to chin.

And it landed on my tongue. Then it melted all away. My snowflake song is done! Place puppet in front of tongue. Hide the puppet behind your back. Take a bow.

• Where is Polar Bear? When little ones play hide-and seek with a polar bear puppet, they're learning oodles of positional words! Cut out a copy of the puppet patterns; then attach the cutouts to a paper lunch bag, as shown, to make a puppet. To begin, introduce Polar Bear. Then, as youngsters cover their eyes, place the polar bear puppet somewhere in the classroom, such as under a table. Have students open their eyes and sing the song shown. Then invite a child to visually find Polar Bear and explain its location using a positional word, such as under the table or beside the stapler. Have Polar Bear congratulate the youngster for finding him. Then play another round of the game.

"Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?"
Oh where, oh where has that polar bear gone?
Oh where, oh where can he be?
Oh where, oh where has that polar bear gone?
Now look and find him with me!

#### Fall

#### **Five Little Leaves**

Five little leaves up in a tree.
One little leaf said "Look at me!"
The leaf let go and down he fell.
Ouch! He didn't feel so well.
(Repeat with four, three, two, one.)

#### **Spring**

- Our Florist Shop: Provide plastic or silk flowers and greenery, Styrofoam blocks, and plastic vases and pots. Encourage the children to create floral arrangements. Discuss their choices of flowers and how they arrange the flowers.
- **Flower Match-Ups:** Cut ten identical flower shapes from construction paper and group them in pairs. Glue a different kind of fabric to each pair of flowers. Mix up the flowers and let the children take turns finding the matching pairs.
- Four Little Flowers: Cut four flowers shapes out of felt and place them on a flannelboard. Let the children take turns removing the flowers as you recite the following poem:

Four little flowers I did see. I picked one, Then there were three.

Three little flowers, Pretty and new. I picked another, Then there were two.

Two little flowers
Out in the sun.
I picked one more,
Then there was one.

One little flower
Left in the sun.
I picked it too,
Then there were none.

#### • Rainbow Colors:

Cut a purple, a blue, a green, a yellow, an orange, and a red arc out of felt. Make each arc slightly bigger than the one before it so that the purple arc is the smallest and the red arc the biggest. Then sing the song below and let the children place the appropriate colored arcs, one at a time, on a flannelboard to create a rainbow.

"Hush Little Baby"
Rainbow purple, rainbow blue,
Rainbow green and yellow too.
Rainbow orange, rainbow red,
Rainbow smiling overhead.

Come and count the colors with me, How many colors can you see? One, two, three, up to green, Four, five, six colors can be seen.

Rainbow purple, rainbow blue, Rainbow green and yellow too. Rainbow orange, rainbow red, Rainbow smiling overhead.

#### <u>Summer</u>

# **Five Little Shells Fingerplay**

5 little shells lying on the shore, Crash went the waves and then there were 4. 4 little shells down by the sea, Crash went the waves! then there were 3. 3 little shells, smooth as new, Crash went the waves! then there were 2. 2 little shells, sparkling in the sun, Crash went the waves! Then there was 1. 1 little shell, left by itself, I took it home, and put it on my shelf.

# **Sensory and Movement Activities**

#### **Winter**

- Indoor Snowstorm: Label a class supply of snowflake cutouts with numbers. Obtain a white bedsheet. To begin, instruct each child to hold on to the edge of the sheet while you place the snowflakes in the center. Next, help students shake the sheet vigorously until each snowflake falls to the ground. Have each student pick up one snowflake and identify the number. If desired, place the snowflakes back on the sheet and get ready for another snowstorm.
- **Salty Snow:** *Sensory Center* In advance, hot glue cardboard rectangles to the front of toy pickup trucks to make snowplows. Fill your sensory table with salt. Place the snowplows in the table, along with plastic animals. Youngsters visit the center and use the snowplows to clear the way for the animals.
- **Polar Bear Says:** Cut out a copy of the polar bear pattern and attach it to a lunch-sized paper bag to make a puppet. Give each youngster a polystyrene ball (a snowball). Don your puppet and have it say, "Hold your snowball above your head." Then watch carefully, making sure youngsters can follow the direction. Continue in the same way with other directions that involve positional words.
- **So Many Snowmen:** Attach a length of bulletin board paper to a tabletop. Then provide crayons and sturdy circle stencils in three different sizes. A youngster traces the stencils on the paper to make snowmen. Then he decorates the snowmen as desired.
- Snow Dough: Make "Snow Dough" by mixing 1 cup flour, ½ cup of salt, 1 cup of water, 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil, 1 tablespoon of cream of tartar, ½ cup non-toxic white tempera paint, and clear glitter. Cook over medium heat until a ball is formed. Let cool and knead. Encourage the children to explore and play with the dough. Talk with them about snow, including its color and texture.
- Cotton Ball Snowflakes: Tape a large sheet of blue construction paper or blue butcher paper on a wall at the children's eye level. Let the children glue white cotton ball "snowflakes" on the blue paper to make a wintertime scene.

- Cotton Ball Walk: Place cotton balls in a small plastic swimming pool. Let the children take turns walking through the cotton balls in their bare feet. As they do so, ask them to describe how the cotton balls feel.
- **Blowing Cotton Balls:** Give each child a cotton ball. Have the children get down on their hands and knees and blow their cotton balls across the floor.
- **Ice Painting:** Give each child a piece of construction paper and an ice cube. Sprinkle a small amount of powder tempera paint on each child's paper. Have the children rub their ice cubes over the powder tempera. As the ice melts, it will turn the powder into liquid paint that dries quickly on their papers.
- Matching Mittens: Cut pairs of mitten shapes out of different textured fabrics such as corduroy, velveteen, flannel and denim. Mix up the shapes and put them in a basket. Hang a clothesline between two chairs and clip clothespins to it. Let the children take turns finding the matching mitten shapes and hanging them on the clothesline.
- **Musical Freeze:** Encourage children to dance freely until the music stops. Then have them freeze.

#### **Fall**

#### Leaf Toss

Put fall-colored leaves on a blanket or parachute. Have the children help bounce the leave into the air by holding on the blanket and waving it up and down.

#### • The Leaves On The Trees

Wheels on the Bus

The leaves on the trees turn orange and red, orange and red, orange and red, the leaves on the trees turn orange and red all through the fall.

The leaves of the trees come tumbling down, tumbling down, tumbling down, the leaves on the trees come tumbling down all through the fall.

The leaves on the ground go swish, all through the fall.

#### **Spring**

• Flower Box: Cut flower shapes out of various colors of construction paper. Let the children glue them to popsicle sticks. Fill a shallow box with dirt or sand. Have the children "plant" the flowers in the dirt in rows from left to right or from back to front. Or direct the children to plant a red flower in front of a yellow flower, an orange flower behind a blue flower, etc.

- The Sounds of Rain: Drape a shower curtain liner over a table. Provide adjustable nozzle spray bottles of water and encourage the children to spray the liner with the spray bottles. Begin with a low intensity of spray. Talk with the children as they experiment with the spray bottles. How does the water sound when it hits the liner? Adjust the force of the water to a higher intensity. How does the water sound now? Does it sound different?
- **Raindrop Hop:** Cut out large raindrops from gray or light blue butcher paper or from a shower curtain liner. Lay the drops on the floor about one foot apart. Encourage the children to hop from raindrop to raindrop. If hopping this distance is easy expand the distance. Suggest that children count the hops they make. Talk with them as they play.
- Rainy Day Romp: This obstacle course helps youngsters expend some energy on a rainy day! In a traffic free area of the room, use Con-Tact covering to attach puddle cutouts to the floor. Tape a large rainbow cutout to a tabletop. Then suspend several cloud cutouts from your ceiling so that they are within students' reach. Each youngster, in turn, jumps on each puddle, crawls under the rainbow, and then jumps up to touch each cloud. As youngsters make their way through this rainy day obstacle course, consider playing a musical recording, such as "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head" or "Singing in the Rain."
- **Rainbow Dance:** Give the children rainbow colored streamers. Play classical music and invite the children to dance creatively with their streamers.
- **Cloud Hop:** Cut out clouds from white vinyl or poster board. Tape the clouds to the floor and encourage the children to jump from cloud to cloud.
- **Puddle Hop:** Cut large puddles from brown or blue poster board, vinyl, or bulletin board paper. Laminate the puddles and place them on the floor a foot apart. Encourage the children to "splash" like raindrops from puddle to puddle. "Has anyone hopped in a real puddle?" "What happens when you hop in a real puddle?"
- **Windy Bubbles:** Blow bubbles for the children and invite them to chase the bubbles. If you blow the bubbles outdoors, try holding the wand in the wind and letting the wind blow the bubbles. If you blow the bubbles indoors, try waving the wand in the air to create a wind.

#### Summer

• Sand Play Dough: Mix together 2 cups flour, 1 cup salt, 1 cup water, and a few drops vegetable oil. Add ½ to ¾ cup sand until the dough is the desired texture.

#### Craft Ideas

#### Winter

- Winter Wear: In the book A Hat for Minerva Louise by Janet Morgan Stoeke, Minerva the chicken tries on several unique hats to wear on a snowy day. After a read-aloud of this book, have the student continue the theme of the story with this cute booklet! Make a copy of the booklet and cards for each child. Have each youngster color the booklet pages and the cards; then encourage him to cut out the cards and glue one card above each chicken on the first three pages. On the final page, prompt the child to draw above the chicken what she considers to be the perfect hat. When the glue is dry, help him cut out the booklet pages and bind them together behind a cover titled, "The Perfect Hat."
- Snow Everywhere: This class book is particularly fun to make after a big snowfall! Have children notice how snow covers everything, from the trees and bushes to cars in the parking lot. Encourage each child to draw a picture on light-colored construction paper of something that could possibly get covered with snow. Next, have him spread glue over the drawing with a glue stick and then dab a cotton ball over the glue. Wispy balls of cotton ball will stick to the glue, giving the object a snow-covered appearance. Write a sentence below the drawing similar to the one shown. Then bind the pages together with a cover titled, "Snow Everywhere!"
- Cotton Ball Trees: For each child roll a piece of green construction paper into a cone shape. Secure with tape and trim the bottom of the cone so that it will stand with the pointed end up. Give each child several cotton balls. Have the children fluff out their cotton balls and glue them to their cones to make snow-covered trees.
- **Ice Brushes:** Make ice brushes by placing craft sticks into partially frozen ice cubes, and then freezing them completely. Give each child an ice cube to use as a paintbrush. Place some powdered tempera paint on their paper and encourage them to paint. "How is using an ice brush different from using a tempera brush.
- **Snowmen:** For craft time, we made snowmen made from paper plates and other assorted craft items. I had prepared the snowman bases by stapling two paper plates together -- one dinner size, one dessert size. The kids added features and clothing with paper and crayons. They turned out extremely cute and full of character!

#### Fall

### Leaf Men

Make Leaf Men like the ones in Lois Ehlert's book.

#### Spring

• Plant seeds in Styrofoam cups. Decorate with construction paper.

- Flower Children: Cut out the centers of 8" paper plates and give one to each child. Cut out several different colors of flower petals from construction paper. Encourage the children to glue the paper petals around the perimeter of their plate to create a flower. Cut out long stems from green crepe paper and help the children glue the "stems" to them bottom of their plates. Make sure the stems are long enough to reach the floor when the children hold the plates in front of their faces. After several children have finished making their flowers ask them to stand in a row with their flowers in front of their faces. Point out that this illustrates the line of the rhyme that says "pretty little maids all in a row."
- Rain Pictures: Provide light blue and gray non-toxic tempera paint and easel paper. Encourage the children to paint a picture of the rain. Show them how they can use their brushes to make dots of rain. Talk with the about the raindrops they are painting. Are you painting a hard rain or a soft rain? How would you paint if the raindrops were coming down hard? What about softly?
- **Tissue Paper Rainbows:** Set out several colors of construction paper, paint brushes, small bowls of liquid starch and pieces of white construction paper. Let each child choose a piece of tissue paper and tear it into small pieces on top of the starch. Let the children follow the same procedure to make other colored tissue paper arcs beneath their first ones.
- **Raindrops:** Cut easel paper into large raindrops. Invite the children to paint the raindrops with blue tempera paint.

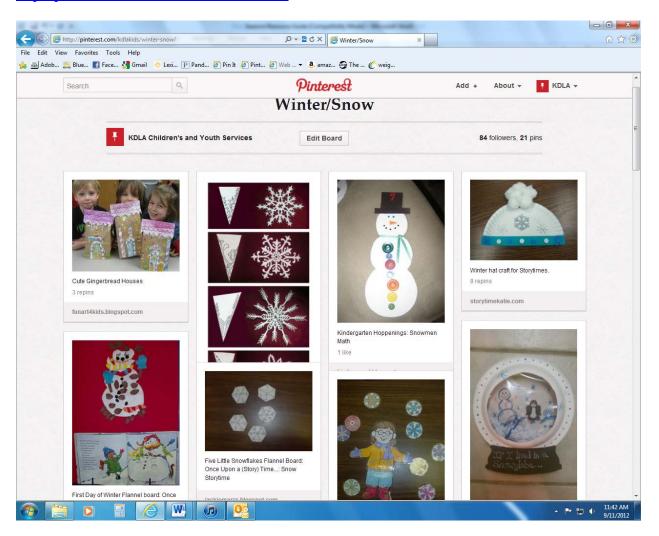
#### <u>Summer</u>

- Sand Pails: Draw a sand pail shape onto orange paper and cut it out. Then, using sea animal sponges, dab on painted shape. Then use colored sand to sprinkle over the painted impression. Finally, attach a yarn handle.
- Sand Paintings: Fill a shaker with colored sand. Encourage the children to make a design with glue on their paper and then shake the Colored Sand over their design.
- **Beach Wreaths:** Cut wreath shapes out of heavy white paper or tag board. Have children paint or color the wreath shape yellow. Let dry. Dribble glue all over wreath. Sprinkle on sand and let dry. Glue on shells, pebbles, and sea weed.
- **So Many Seeds:** Gather a supply of small black pom-poms and place them in a container. Have each student paint or color the center of a paper plate pink and the rim green like a watermelon. Next, have each student glue pom-poms to the center of his watermelon so that they resemble seeds.

You'll find many more craft and activity ideas on our Pinterest boards!

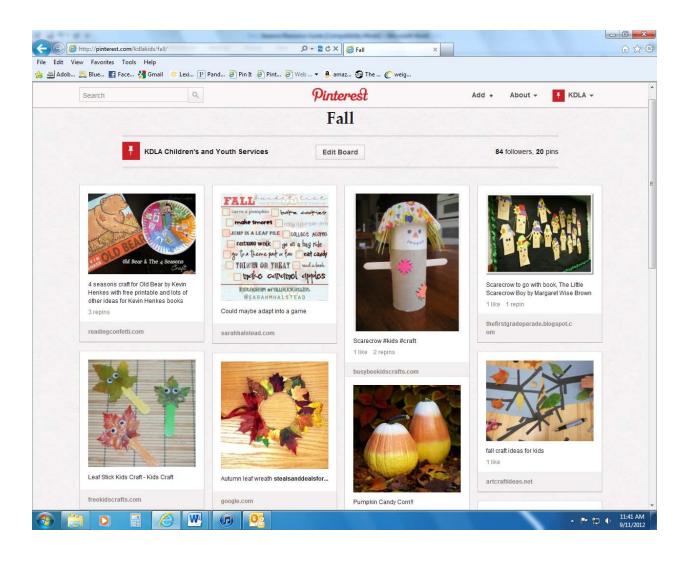
# Winter

http://pinterest.com/kdlakids/winter-snow/



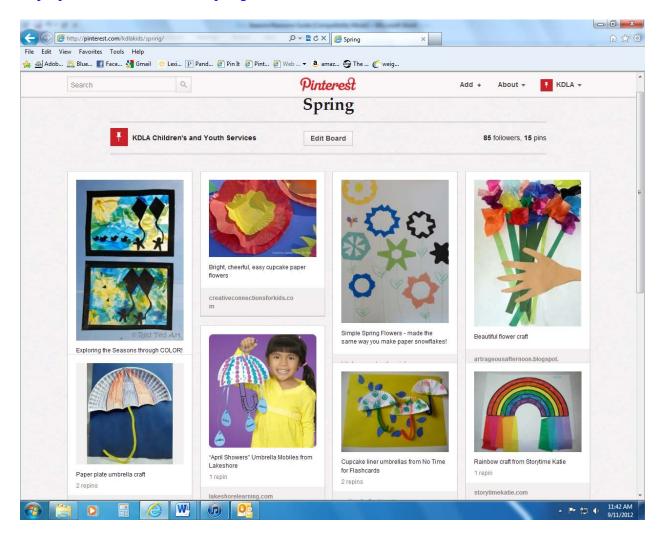
## Fall

http://pinterest.com/kdlakids/fall/



# **Spring**

http://pinterest.com/kdlakids/spring/



# **Summer**

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