

Spring 2024—Creativity

Series Curriculum Overview



	Lesson Title	Lesson Description	Creativity Focus
Pre Season	 Intro Lesson Nature Nectar	In our spring introductory lesson, we'll mix, mash, and stir natural ingredients together to create and imagine with our own "nature nectar."	Creativity Focus: Intro to Tinkergarten and Creativity Featured Creature: Chimpanzee
Unit 1: Building Blocks	 Lesson 1 Breaking and Making	We'll kick off our Creativity series by embracing the creative act of <u>destruction</u> ! We'll pick and pluck various natural objects apart. Then, we gather up the loose parts and bring them together to create something new.	Creativity Focus: The 3 B's: Breaking + Destructive Play Featured Creature: Beaver
	 Lesson 2 Blend It	Today we'll give kids a chance to combine dirt and water to make our favorite <u>messy play</u> material—MUD! And, we'll see what happens when we <u>blend</u> all kinds of things in.	Creativity Focus: The 3 B's: Blending + Messy Play Featured Creature: Termite
	 Lesson 3 Weaving Together	Inspired by the work birds do to build their nests, today we'll <u>bend and blend</u> various materials to create woven works of art, just as we bend concepts, stretching and reshaping them as we create.	Creativity Focus: The 3 B's: Bending Featured Creature: Weaver Bird
Unit 2: Creative Thinking	 Lesson 4 It's Not A...	Today we'll discover some objects that look familiar, but they are not what they appear to be! Together we'll lean into <u>divergent thinking</u> and explore the endless possibilities of what our 'not-a-objects' can become.	Creativity Focus: Divergent Thinking Featured Creature: Stick Bug

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Unit 2: Creative Thinking	 Lesson 5 Bear Hike	Today we'll lean into pretending—the perfect way to develop <u>cognitive flexibility</u> . We'll activate our bodies and our imaginations, think creatively and adjust to challenges as we hike to find our friend bear.	Creativity Focus: Pretending as a Tool for Creative Thinking Featured Creature: Bear
	 Lesson 6 Water Works	This time we have a problem to solve: How can we move water from here to there? We'll think creatively, explore all possibilities, and test strategies as we solve the problem together.	Creativity Focus: Creative Problem Solving Featured Creature: Water
Unit 3: Creative Expression	 Lesson 7 Catching Colors	Today we discover an invitation to create a masterpiece, but we don't know what to make! We'll lean into the process of art making, rather than the final product and share joy in freely exploring color together.	Creativity Focus: Process vs. Product Featured Creature: Chameleon
	 Lesson 8 Clay Creations	In this lesson we take inspiration from the shapes and patterns of the natural world as we mold, stick, and shape forest putty and nature treasures into our own sculptures.	Creativity Focus: Putting It All Together: Divergent Thinking and the 3 B's Featured Creature: Fractals in Nature
	 Lesson 9 Earth Parade	In our final lesson of the series, we'll use homemade drums to explore the different patterns and rhythms we can create, just like many creatures do to communicate. Then, we'll parade and express our gratitude for the earth and all we've shared together this season.	Creativity Focus: Expressing Ourselves Through Music and Movement Featured Creature: Explorers!



Recommended Book List

To follow are recommended books to compliment each of the lessons in the Creativity series.

PreSeason—*Abracadabra, It's Spring!* by Anne Sibley O'Brien

Lesson 1—*Perfect Square* by Michael Hall

Lesson 2—*Mud!* by Mary Lyn Ray

Lesson 3—*Abuela's Weave* by Omar S. Castañeda

Lesson 4—*Not a Stick* by Antoinette Portis

Lesson 5—*We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Helen Oxenbury

Lesson 6—*Anna Carries Water* by Olive Senior

Lesson 7—*Swatch: The Girl Who Loved Colors* by Julia Denos

Lesson 8—*A Leaf Can Be...* by Laura Salas

Lesson 9—*Max Found Two Sticks* by Brian Pinkney

Focus Skill—Creativity



This Spring, we focus on [creativity](#)—the ability to imagine original ideas or solutions to problems and make them happen. We'll help kids develop creative mindsets and strategies that they can use throughout their lives to invent new things, solve problems, express their ideas and feelings, and to nurture relationships. And, we'll do it all through enriching, outdoor play!

Up Next:



Summer Solstice Event—June 20th

Our Summer Solstice Event will help TG families everywhere celebrate the longest day and the start of Summer!



Summer 2024—Sensory Series

Our Seven Senses Summer curriculum is designed to help kids [strengthen their senses](#) through joyful outdoor play!