

Fletcher and the Springtime Blossom

Notes for Educators



Introduce the author, Julia Rawlinson. She writes the Fletcher stories.

Introduce the illustrator, Tiphonie Beeke. She draws the pictures.

This is Fletcher's spring story. What springtime things can you see on the cover?

What else happens in spring?

Activities

Go for a spring walk. What can you see, hear and smell?

Create a new spring cover for Fletcher.



'sing-song sounds' – alliteration.

Can you think of another word beginning with 's' to add?

Have you played chase?

How does it feel?

Activities

Alliterative pairs – choose a word, then think of another word starting with the same sound.

'just-burst buds' – show how a flower bursts open with your hands.



Have you rolled down a hill? How did it feel?

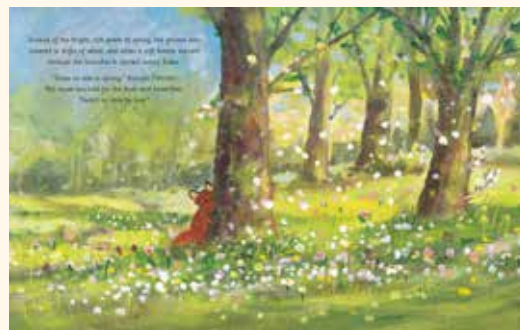
What grows in an orchard? Fruit trees.

What might Fletcher have seen?

Activities

Movement – standing, crouching, stretching, rolling.

Listen to Spring from Vivaldi's Four Seasons and move to the music.



What could the snowy flakes be?

Activities

Nature art – make butterflies out of petals, leaves and twigs.



How many birds are there? Two – a pair.

Why do some birds fly away for the winter?

To go somewhere warmer. This is called migration.

Activities

Create a 'spot the bird' poster and introduce the names of birds. Keep a tally of the birds you see.



What has Hedgehog been doing? Sleeping.
Why do hedgehogs sleep through the winter? It's cold and food is scarce. This is called hibernation.

Where are the friends going next?

Activities

Create a storyboard of the story with cut-outs of the animals to place in their correct homes.



What is Hedgehog riding in?
How many animals are going to look for the rabbits?

Activities

Make a cart out of recycled materials or construction toys.



What are the rabbits doing?
Are they having fun?
What colours are the rabbits?
What colours are the flowers?

Activities

Go out looking for different colours in nature.



What do the rabbits want to do?
Have you played in the snow?
How did it feel?
How many are going to play in the snow?

Activities

Put small toys or pictures of the characters in a bag to count or place in order from the story.



What is blossom? Petals from flowering trees.

Activities

Watch a clip of the cherry blossom festival in Japan.

Movement – move from a seed in the earth, growing and flowering.

Create a cycle of buds – blossom – fruit.



Are the animals having fun in the blossom?
How do we know?

Activities

Throw blossom, or tissue paper blossom, into the air so it falls like snow.

Touch blossom or other flower petals. How do they feel?

Can you catch blossom blowing in the breeze?



What are the doves doing with the blossom? What else could they use to make their nest? Twigs, leaves, grass, moss.

Activities

Look up when you go outside. Can you spot any nests in the trees?

Make a nest for a pebble 'egg'.



What is Fletcher doing in the blossom?

Activities

Paint a blossom tree. Make a brown hand print for the tree trunk and branches. Finger paint blossom and leaves on the tree.

