

Circle of Hands

Travelling through the seasons with Handwork

September

Mother Earth Standing Puppet

This puppet is the focus of our Nature Tables
As she works from her special root table
Making clothes for all her little ones and prepping
All the leaf babies for the coming of spring.
We will create a Mother Earth that can easily move
in a puppet show, or hold her special tools in her
strong hands.

Simple sewing and felting will be used in this class.



October

Mother Earth's helpers: root children and leaf fairies

We all need help with our work! In this class we will create some earthly helpers for Mother Earth: Sweet little root and seed babies made from velour and felt.

They will have hands to hold their little tools and will be perfectly weighted to pose in their wintry home.

November

Winter gardens The Joy of Creating our Sacred World

The beginning of the winter season brings such deep anticipation that leads us to the Winter Solstice.

In this class we will look at the kingdoms of the world rocks, crystals, stones, animals and human. We will look at how we can bring this into the classroom with crafts that will be part of the winters garden so each child has a small universe in the palm of their hands!

Our handwork for this month will concentrate on the making of the gardens and creating some little "Beasts" to enhance the week of the animals.

We will make little birds, bunnies and sheep.

December

The magic of finger puppets

In this class we will concentrate on poems and little stories using finger puppet friends. All ages of children love finger puppets, especially the little ones in kindergarten. As teachers we always need a few magical beings that can jump out of our apron pocket To spread joy and love in those situations that might need a little tenderness.

January

Weighted Gnomes and the story; The Little Gnome that is Looking For a Home.”

This story has been a favorite in my kindergarten for many years and I have used it for my closing ceremony on the last day of school. The gnomes we will make are weighted and have lots of fun balancing on roots and shoots! I have 18 of these gnomes living happily deep down in my Nature Garden and they have been played with endlessly.

February

Boo Boo babies filled with Love!

These little babies have worked magic in my classroom when a fall or bump happens. There is just enough room for an ice cube to cool bumpadoodles!

March

Time for Mrs. Thaw!

Here in Colorado we really need some help sweeping the snow away as it can snow all the way up to May!

So Mrs. Thaw is a great help to sweep sweep sweep away all that icy snow. I also use this puppet when I tell the Russian tale of Baboushka.

April

Where is Lady Spring?

Lets make a beautiful Lady Spring marionette to live on the Nature Garden to share her light and love across the land! We will make a marionette to use for puppet shows or to deck the nature garden to radiate her golden glow.

May

Doves of Light

We will conclude this year with making two kinds of birds that fly from the branches on your nature garden. We will felt some “Doves of Peace” and we will also make some very sweet birds out of felt to fly fly fly up in the blue sky.

We will also felt some bird nests using the wet method of felting.

I've given out these birds and nests for birthdays and graduations as well. They fly all over my classroom!