



IDEAS IN

ChildhoodMinistry

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Nature Plates



The Big Idea

Celebrate springtime by showing preschoolers some of the wonderful things God has made. Making nature plates is a safe and interesting way to provide nature activities. Some nature items are fragile and need to be protected before using. This idea allows a child to hold and see the nature items.

Make plates for leaves or flowers. Talk about nature items to see, smell, and touch in the spring.

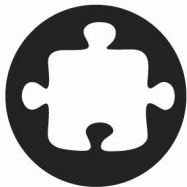
Think about the wonderful things God made (Job 37:14).



Things to Gather

Supplies for Making Nature Plate:

- 2 clear plastic plates, 6ö or 9ö size
- flowers (Pansies work great!) or leaves
- heavy clear tape



Put it Together

1. Lay the flowers in the center of one of the clear plates. Use your fingers to flatten the flower petals. Small leaves can also be added with the flowers.
2. Set another clear plate on top of the nature items.
3. Press the two plates together.
4. Tape around the edges of the plates with heavy clear tape.

Teaching Tips:

- Display the plates in the nature center near an open Bible. Place a marker at Job 37:14 to locate the verse about things God made.
- Show a nature plate during group time to initiate conversation about spring and God's plans for the seasons.
- Bring supplies to make nature plates during a session. A child will enjoy having a plate to take home.

Bonus Idea:

Make extra plates to use for home visits. Show the plate to a parent and child during a home visit to talk about wonderful things God made and to tell about things boys and girls do in their room at church.

