## **Twenty Spring Activities**

- **Make Nature collages:** grab heavy-weighted paper and some glue! Find treasures in your yard and make art with leaves, flowers, grass and sticks.
- **Decorate Flowerpots:** purchase terra-cotta flowerpots and paint them with bright designs. Acrylic paint works best, so be sure to wear old clothes when painting!
- **Take a Silly Story Walk:** go for a walk together and take turns adding to a silly story, pulling inspiration from the things you see on your journey.
- **Fly Kites:** buy an inexpensive kite and head to a large park. Run with the wind and watch your kite soar (or laugh with your kiddos at your attempts of flight)
- **Make Birds Nests:** learn about animal homes and create a bird nest. Tie together twigs and grass to make a cozy nest for your flying friends.
- **Press Flowers:** find beautiful spring flowers! Using parchment paper, press the flowers in between the pages of a heavy book to preserve them.
- **Take a Playground Tour:** search for local playgrounds that you have not yet visited or visit unique playgrounds that are a bit further away.
- **Pop up a Tent:** use a camping tent, some pillows and cozy blankets to make an outdoor hangout spot. Play pretend, break out the board games, or read books in your backyard fort.
- **Build a Fairy or Toad House:** use natural and recycled materials in your yard to build a fairy or toad house for your garden. A plastic garden pot is a great base to start with.
- **Start a Nature Journal:** the sights and sounds of spring are such a treat after winter! Have your kiddos draw, paint, or write their weekly observations of their backyard.
- **Take a Scavenger Hunt Walk:** take a walk through the neighborhood, searching for different flowers, birds, bugs, plants, colors and noises!
- Make Rock Plant Markers: use acrylic paint and some creativity to paint rocks to use as markers for your garden crops.
- **Have a Picnic:** put together a delightful lunch of finger foods and snacks, grab a blanket, and enjoy eating al fresco!
- **Make Mobiles or Wind chimes:** use a long stick and string to make nature-inspired wind chimes or mobiles with treasures found outside.
- Make Leaf and Bark Rubbings: grab plain printer paper and crayons and check out the texture and artful designs in the world around you.
- **Start with Seeds:** use an egg carton, a pack of sunflower seeds, and some soil. Poke holes for drainage, fill with soil, and let the kids plant and watch their seeds grow! Transfer the flowers to a flower bed once they're bigger.
- **Make Potions:** grab cups, water, and your imagination! Let your little ones make their own magical concoctions with leaves, grass, and flowers.
- **Start a Compost Bin:** buy a bin and layer it with yard waste, grass clippings, and food scraps. Add to it, mix it up, and observe the changes over time.
- Enjoy the Classics: grab the bubble wands and the chalk. Savor the simple joys of childhood!
- Watch the Birds: set up a bird feeder in your yard (there are fun DIY ones you can build and paint, too!). Have fun identifying and naming the birds that visit.

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