

## Kindergarten Curriculum Link Ideas

Subject	Unit	Season	Activity	Description
<b>Early Literacy</b>		Any	Story Scavenger	Break a story into small segments. Add interactive tasks. Number the segments and hide them in succession in the garden. Read the story as the students find the segments. See for example "When the Bear Stole the Chinook."
		Any	I see, I wonder	Make a circle around a natural object (rock, tree) or pass a smaller object around (leaf, berry, etc.). Each student needs to observe one thing (e.g. It feels rough) and ask one question (e.g. "I wonder what kind of tree it is?")
<b>Environment and Community Awareness</b>		Any	Animal Needs Hunt	Students search outside for the animal needs on the cards (see card sheet below). Trade cards and repeat. Discuss why some needs were not found: e.g. in winter some animals might need to migrate/hibernate.
		Spring, Summer, Fall	Plant Match Up	Collect a variety of plant materials from the garden (twigs, leaves, needles, berries, flowers, etc.). Show students one item and have them match it to the correct plant.
		Any	Sense Hunt	Students search for garden scents, sights, sounds and textures. Draw findings in journals or the Sensory Observation Sheet.
<b>Mathematics</b>	Number	Late spring through fall	Ladybugs	Show pictures of different ladybug species with different numbers of spots. Count the spots as a class. Hunt for ladybugs and count their spots.
	Patterns and Relations	Any	Pattern Hunt	Give students one pattern type (e.g. colour, sound, texture, etc.). Students find as many examples as possible. Share three patterns found and repeat for another pattern type.
	Shape and Space	Any	Size Comparison Hunt	Give students a measurement "tool" (e.g. foot, thumb, etc.) Students find something bigger than, smaller than and the same size as their tool. Repeat with other tools.
<b>Creative Expression</b>		Any	Build an Animal Home	Students hunt for animal homes. Collect natural, nonliving materials and build a home for an animal.
		Winter	Colouring Snow	Practice making secondary colours in the snow using spray bottles with primary colours (food colouring and water). Make a picture in the snow. Hunt for colours in nature. Try to add colour from nature to your picture.
		Any	Nature's Art Supplies	Students create a piece of art using only paper and natural art supplies (mud painting, leaf/needle rubbing, etc.).
<b>Personal and Social Responsibility</b>		Any	Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	Hunt for litter outside. Make three piles to represent the three R's. What can we do with these items?
		Winter	Pinecone Bird Feeders	Students roll cones (with string attached) in lard and seeds. Hang one or two extra feeders outside. Students take own feeder home. Hunt for birds and signs of birds.

## When the Bear Stole the Chinook

A Siksika Tale by Harriet Peck Taylor

Adapted by Jaclyn Fink, Calgary Zoo, 2013

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One winter, the north wind blew very cold. The land was covered in ice and snow. The warm chinook winds never came. There was very little food for the Siksika people to eat.

**Find something you could eat: currants, rose hips, soft inner bark of Aspen**

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There was a boy whose closest friends were the birds and the animals: Owl, Coyote, Weasel, Prairie Chicken and Magpie. He spoke with them and shared with them whatever food he had.

**Get the student to hold up the animal pictures. Have them hold the animal picture up, each time it comes up in the story. Have them guess which Prairie Chicken is a girl and which is a boy.**

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The boy asked Magpie if he knew where the Chinook went. Magpie flew to his relatives in the mountains to ask. His relatives told him that a huge Bear is living in a den high in the mountains. The Bear stole the wind to keep warm all winter.

Early in the morning the boy and his friends left to bring the Chinook back from the bear. The friends climbed high into the mountains through the snowy forests. The wind threw snow in their faces. That night they found shelter in caves.

**Find a warm place to spend the night.**

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The next day the boy and his friends found the Bear's den. They tried to sneak up on the bear.

**Try to sneak up quietly on the Bear.**

"Grrrr. Who's there?" **(Bear picture)**

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The owl, with his good eyes, went to look through the smoke hole in the Bear's den and try to find the chinook. The Bear heard the Owl and poked his eyes with a stick. That is why owls always have circles around their eyes.

**Hold up the owl eyes picture**

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Next the brave Coyote went to try to take a look. The Bear was waiting and tried to grab Coyote with his huge paw. Coyote ran back to his friends.

Weasel, with her white winter coat, crept up to the smoke hole. The Bear thought it was snow falling through the hole. The Weasel saw the Chinook in a bag in the corner. But how will they get it?

The boy blew smoke from his pipe into the den and the Bear got sleepy. **(Pipe picture)** Soon the Bear was snoring so loud even the ground rumbled.

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Coyote crawled qilently past the bear and grabbed the bag. The Prairie Chicken pecked the bag with her beak. The bag snapped open and whoooooosh! The chinook rushed out.

The sound woke the Bear and he came chasing after the boy and his friends. They raced down the mountain and across a frozen river.

**Walk/run up the hill.**

When the bear got to the river, the ice was already melting and he could not follow them. **Look back to see the Bear across the river.**

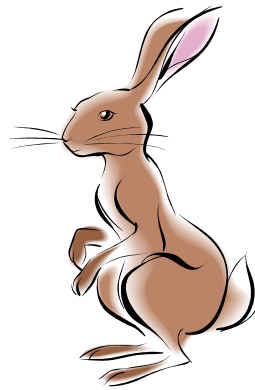
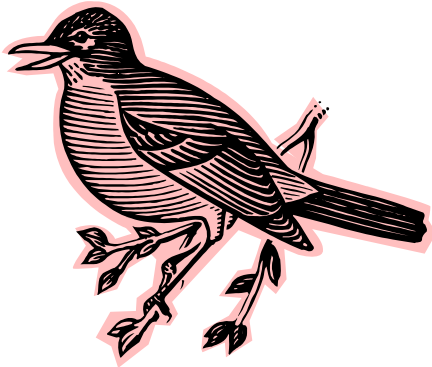
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When the boy returned to his village, the people came out of their lodges. The warm wind blew and everywhere snow and ice melted. The people, animals and birds danced and gave thanks.

**Dance in joy of the Chinook and the coming of Spring.**

Bear was never allowed to steal the Chinook again. Since then he sleeps all winter long, never leaving his den until the warm wind called the Chinook returns, bringing spring to the land.

# Animal Needs Scavenger Hunt



# Sensory Observation Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sights

Smells



Touch

Sounds

