



My Friend Earth

Written by Patricia MacLachlan Illustrated by Francesca Sanna

My Friend Earth is a celebration of our planet, the different seasons and how creatures great and small survive and thrive in nature.

READ

Before: Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *what do you think this story is about?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

I wonder what that little girl is thinking?

During: Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out “rare words” (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words

- spinning – if insects: to form something by producing a fluid that quickly hardens into a thread
- prairie – a large, mostly flat area of land that has few trees and is covered in grasses
- swish – to move or cause something to move with a soft sweeping or brushing sound
- tundra – a large area of flat land in northern parts of the world where there are no trees and the ground is always frozen
- fierce – powerful
- cradled – held gently

After: Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What does our friend Earth hear when she wakes from her winter nap?
- What small things did Earth see? What large things did Earth see?
- Who does Earth guard in the ocean?
- How does Earth fill the streams and rivers?
- Does Earth ever pour too much rain? What does she do after that?
- How would you describe the Earth’s autumn wind?
- What does Earth sprinkle when it is cold?



DO

Get busy! Think of ways you can reduce garbage.
Find something that you can recycle or repurpose in your home.
Ask others to join you!

Watch this YouTube Video on the impact of plastic on our environment!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZ71svh1RV0>



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