

SHAMROCK LACING

FINE MOTOR

MATERIALS

green paper
shamrock pattern
yellow yarn
hole punch

WHAT TO DO

- St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.
- 1. Draw a large shamrock on 8" x 11" sheets of green paper.
- 2. Have each child cut out a shamrock.
- 3. Use a hole punch to punch holes around the shamrock. The difficulty of this activity depends on how many holes you punch—you can tailor the activity to each child's level of ability.
- 4. Give each child a piece of yellow yarn with both ends taped (to make "needles"). Encourage the children to lace the yellow yarn through each hole.

MORE TO DO

Art: Let the children paint their shamrocks green. Let dry, decorate with glitter glue, and then punch holes.

★ *Jill Martin and D'Arcy Simmons, Springfield, MO*

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HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY TO YOU

FINGERPLAYS, SONGS, & POEMS

MATERIALS

none

WHAT TO DO

- St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.
- 1. Sing the following song, to the tune of "Happy Birthday":

*Happy St. Patrick's Day to you,
Happy St. Patrick' Day to you,
Happy St. Patrick's Day everybody,
Happy St. Patrick's Day to you.*

- 2. Substitute "Happy Irish Potato Day" or "Happy Shamrock Day" for St. Patrick's Day and repeat the song.

★ *Kathy Kalmar, Macomb, MI*

This Little Leprechaun

FINGERPLAYS, SONGS, & POEMS

MATERIALS none

WHAT TO DO

- St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.
- This little leprechaun went to Ireland* (raise thumb)
- This little leprechaun stayed home* (raise index finger)
- This little leprechaun ate Irish stew* (raise middle finger)
- This little leprechaun ate none* (raise ring finger)
- And this little leprechaun cried, "Top of the morning to ye everyone!"* (raise pinkie)

★ *Kathy Kalmar, Macomb, MI*

Jack Jump

GAMES

MATERIALS small rope
 empty toilet paper tubes
 small paper plates
 glue
 small piece of tissue paper
 paint and brushes

WHAT TO DO

- St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.
- 1. Teach the children the following rhyme:

*Jack be nimble,
 Jack be quick,
 Jack jump over the candlestick.*
- 2. Have the children take turns jumping over a rope. Substitute the child's name each time ("Mary be quick").
- 3. Give each child an empty toilet paper tube to paint.
- 4. When the paper tubes are dry, show the children how to put glue around one end of the tube and glue it in the middle of a small painted paper plate. At the opposite end, let them glue a piece of tissue paper for the flame.
- 5. When the "candlesticks" are dry, encourage the children to practice their jumping as they say the rhyme in class.