

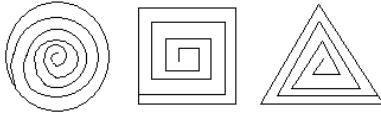
May Teacher Directions: Wanda's Roses

Teacher Preparation for this Lesson:

Before teaching this lesson, discuss spirals. Go online to see beautiful pictures of spirals in nature, including a closeup photo of a rose:

<http://originalbeauty.wordpress.com/2009/06/27/spirals-in-nature/>

A nice idea is to print out the pictures and put them in a binder with transparent sleeves, one picture to a page. This facilitates sharing, and you can keep the binder for when you find more pictures of spirals. Another fun activity is to have children cut their own spirals: Have them start with a circle, square or triangle and cut in a spiral fashion from the outside towards the center. Then hold by the center and see the rest spiral down.



Read the Book: This is a lovely book about a little girl with a dream. Wanda finds a vacant lot strewn with garbage. She decides to enlist her neighbors to clean up the lot so that she can have a beautiful rose garden. Everyone helps, but they are concerned because the “rose bush” that Wanda is nurturing is really an old thorn bush. Once the lot is cleaned up, Wanda decides to invite everyone for a tea party in her “rose garden.” Just to be on the safe side, she makes paper roses to hang on the thorny bush. But not to worry! Each of the neighbors shows up with a brand new rose bush, and Wanda ends up with the rose garden that she always knew she would have. Sigh!

Neighbors are multi-ethnic, and the message is one of community involvement and caring.

Funbook Pages: This month's free downloadable pages come from the Let's Read Math Funbook 2. Page 31 is about finding combinations to make a bouquet of 10 roses. Ask children how many combinations they think are possible. Figure out a way to record what they find, and to check for duplicates. Then ask, “How many ways are possible?” (Don't tell, but there are 65!)

Next, on page 32, have children plan how they would set up their own rose garden. This task can be as simple or as complicated as the age of the children and the inclination of the adults involved. Young children will draw freely. Older children can think about the dimensions of the lot, and make a scale drawing showing the relative sizes of the bushes, swing sets, fountains, pathways etc. Make miniature gardens inside a shoebox, or proceed to make an actual garden at your site!

Lesson Extension: State Quarters

In the May Book-of-the-Month packet (\$19.99), not only do you get a copy of the book. You also get two additional worksheets of interest:

- (1) a chart showing the 65 different ways to make a bouquet of 10 roses using one, two, or all three available colors.
- (2) Photos showing how to make paper roses out of tissue paper. For each rose, you need one sheet of tissue paper (red, pink, or yellow if you want to use the same colors featured in the Funbook), and a florist stick or a new pencil for a stem. Leaves are optional.

Book-of-the-Month packets can be ordered online, using a credit card.

Alternatively, you can fax or email a purchase order to:

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