## Home Connection

### Gross Motor/Outdoor Play
The children will strengthen their gross motor skills by imitating bug movements such as, jumping, crawling, and fluttering. The children will also participate in plant movements such as, bending, swaying, and stretching. Try a few of these movements at home with your child.

### Fine Motor/Pre-Writing
The children will practice enhancing their eye-hand coordination skills by cutting, pasting, painting and manipulating objects and materials to create their own bugs. The children will also create texture collages and gadget paintings by using natural items such as small branches, leaves, flowers, and herbs as painting tools. Help your child create a work of art using natural items found outside your home.

### Cognitive/Phonological Awareness
The children will explore the characteristics of bugs and gardens. They will learn about various types of bugs. They will also learn to identify types of flowers and plants as well as their parts and life cycles. They will enhance their phonemic awareness by clapping the syllables of words in our topic vocabulary. Discuss what plants and flowers you and your child may see around you.

### Social/Emotional
The children will learn the basic needs of bugs and plants and how to take care of them. They will also observe how plants and flowers grow. Consider taking your child to the Natural Science Museum or Moody Gardens to see the Butterfly Exhibit.

### Self-Help
The children will learn to use and take care of simple tools such as, magnifying glasses, bug catcher jars, gardening tools, etc. Create a family garden at your home with flowers or herbs.

## Language and Literacy

### Vocabulary
- Abdomen
- Arachnid/Aracnidos
- Blossom/Florece
- Buds/Brotes
- Chlorophyll/Clorofila
- Colonies/Colonia
- Fertilizer/Fertilizante
- Insect/Insectos
- Metamorphosis /Metamorfosis
- Nectar
- Petals/Petalos
- Photosynthesis
- Roots/Raiz
- Soil/tierra
- Sprout/brote
- Stem/Tallo
- Thorax/Torax

### Books
- **Lo Mejor de Mama** by Laura Numeroff
- **Siempre te Querre Cinco de Mayo** by Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith
- **Eres tu mi Mama?** by P D Eastman
- **Sorpresas en el Huerto** by Zoe Hall
- **La Flor de Oro** by Nina Taffe
- **Una Viejita muy Graciosa** by Arnhilda Badia
- **Un Girasol Muy Grande** by Francis Barry

### Songs/Fingerplays
- "Aquel Caracol"
- "Las Hormigas Marchan"
- "Mire, Mire, Madre"
- "My May Garden"
- "La Pajara Pinta"
- "Abejorro Bebe"
- "Cinco Mariquitas"
- "La Semillita"
- "La Oruga Veloz"
- "You Are My Sunshine"
- "Pato,Pato,Ganso"
- "La Lombrisita"
- "I Love You"