MASHENKA'S SONG

Grand mother dear Grand father dear, Hey diddle dee forever now I'm staying here. Hey diddle dee Ma shenka sweet Ma shenka dear forever now you're staying here Hey diddle diddle

Dee how happy we will be Hey diddle diddle Dee how Happy we will be

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A SUMMER PLAY FOR SMALL PUPPETS

Bronja Zahlingen
from a story by H. Rolka

Music. The snail creeps across. The storyteller speaks:

Can you be silent where greenwoods grow,
Where deep in the shade small streamlets flow?
Can you walk without shouting on tips of your toes?
Then come! and you'll see how little folk pass
Gathering dewdrops from flowers and grass!

Song of the mossy brothers:

Quickly, quickly, little brother
Pick up every drop of water,
Raindrops there and dewdrops here
Take it to the fountain clear!

Quickly, quickly little brother,
Fill your bucket full of water,
Save it well for Mother Earth
'Gainst the summer's heat and death!
The oldest one speaks:

I am the oldest with silvery hair
I've lived in the forest for many a year.
I clearly feel the summer's heat
When fireman dances on fiery feet.
So quickly, quickly brothers
Do fill up your buckets!

Song of mossy brothers, repeated. The storyteller speaks:

At last comes the youngest, a wee little man,
He carries and carries and carries again
For even the tiniest drop will be good
In the heat of the summer for flowers and food.

Song of the mossy brothers, repeated. They all sit around the pond.

Music, as in beginning. Butterflies fly. Storyteller speaks:

If you see a fairy ring
On a field of grass,
Very lightly step around
Tiptoe as you pass!
Last night fairies frolicked here,
And they're sleeping somewhere near.

Song of the sylphs:

We fairies of flowers, we butterflies,
We airy young sisters of sunny skies,
A-dancing and singing by night and day
Midst fragrant sweet scents and midst colors gay.

Yellow fairy comes and calls:

Sisters, sisters, do not stay!
Dearest sisters, hide away!
The fireman is coming on fiery feet
To dry up the grass with the flame of his heat!
Dear sisters, away!
For we must not stay!

Music and dance of the fireman. Then he speaks:

I am the fireman
Burn with my flame I can.
I'll dry up the Earth
I'll dry up the Air.
I'll dry up the grass and flowers fair!

Fairies sing second tune:

Oh come and help, green brothers dear,
Bring water from the fountains clear.
The flowers fade, the leaves are dry
If we can't drink they are sure to die!
Gnomes' song, twice:

Quickly, quickly little brothers
Pour out every drop of water!
Fireman, you must not stay,
We shall wash you right away!

They speak twice:

With a swish and a swash
And away you'll be washed!

Fairies sing first tune:

We thank you, we thank you, green brothers dear!
You've saved our lives with your water clear.
Now join our dancing and join our play,
Make merry with us all this summer's day!

Dance of fairies and gnomes, several times over:

Come sing and dance
And laugh and play
Be merry all this summerday!

And eventually the children might join in singing.

* * *

THE GIANT AND THE GNOME

(Use knotted cloth dolls and two small pieces to wrap feet. Do the whole play in front of the children, including making of the puppets.)

There walked a giant big and bold
Whose feet were getting very cold.
He came long to our town
And walked the streets all up and down,
Calling "Is no one hearing me?
My toes are freezing bitterly!
No single shop that I could tell
Has stockings giant-size to sell."

A little gnome both old and wise
He gave him very good advice,
He brought two pretty bits of stuff
The giant thought them good enough.
He wrapped his feet, his pain was eased,
And home he walked, content and pleased.

* * *
Directions:
Cut out one cone from cardboard. Wet cardboard, bend into shape and fasten with paper clip. Let dry. (Step one)

Cut out another cone, this one from fabric, sew together.

Insert cardboard cone into fabric cone, adjust cardboard to fit fabric, glue, forming one cone. (Step two)

Cut out dress pattern, sew together. (Step three)

Use a square piece of fabric, 3 or 4 inches. Place stuffing in center, gather edges together, bind forming a ball. This is the head. (Step four)

Head is bound on to a dowel or stick 18 inches long 1/4 inch wide. (Step five)
Head and dowel are attached to dress, sewing head and dress securely together. (Step 6)

Sew bottom of dress to top of cone. (Step 7)

Next attach hands and trim in any desired way. By pulling stick down, puppet hides. Push up, pops up to say hello.

-Hiding

"Hello"

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- Taken from Linda Lee Malone's Course Book. (Early Childhood Education Student at Detroit Teacher Training Institute)
VERSES

Summer Rain

The summer's warm showers are falling like mist
My face and my hands by their soft touch are kissed.
The dry thirsty ground becomes fragrant and cool
On every green leaf lies a small shining pool.

Earth blossoms again,
I do love the rain.

I Can Turn Myself

I can turn myself and turn myself
And curl up when I will.
I can stand on tiptoe, reaching high
Or I can hold myself quite still.

I can be as small as a tiny seed
Or grow tall as a tall, tall tree.
I can be as wide as the whole wide world
Or I can just be me.

October

Scarlet and yellow and golden and brown
Winds of October blow all the leaves down,
Tear from the branches their curtains and spread
Carpets of color beneath them instead.

Glistening with rain, or ablaze in the sun
Falling in showers, or dropped one by one
Fluttering leaves of October blow down
Scarlet and yellow and golden and brown.

The Stork

I lift my leg, I stretch my leg
I plant it firm and light.
I lift again and stretch again,
My pace exactly right.
With care I go, so grand and slow,
I move just like a stork
My eye is bright, my head upright
And pride is in my walk.

(Children imitate appropriate motions)

April

Soft the showers sweep the blossoms
Sudden shines the sun again.
Rainbows give their ancient promise
Sun will always follow rain.
Spring is Coming

Spring is coming, spring is coming, birds build your nest. Wove together straw and feathers.

2. Spring is coming, spring is coming
   Flowers are coming too,
   Annsies, lillies, daffodilites,
   New are coming through,

   doing each your best!

3. Spring is coming, spring is coming
   All around is fair
   Shyler, quieter on the river
   Joy is everywhere,

4. Spring is coming, spring is coming
   How do you think I know?
   I found some pussy willows
   So I know it must be so.

- Verses and song from Pre-School Waldorf School, Garden City:
  Sources unidentified

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EVENING PRAYER
(for the parent, to say it with the child after age three)

From my head to my feet I'm the image of God
From my heart to my hands, His own breath do I feel.
When I speak with my mouth I shall follow God's will
When I see and know God in Father and Mother
In all loving people, in beats and flower, in trees, plants,
and stones,
Then no fear shall I feel, only love then fills me for all that is around me.

- Rudolf Steiner

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Particular thanks for contributions to this issue go to the Detroit Waldorf School Pre-School Teachers.

A.C.

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