

Seasonal Poetry for Wet on Wet Watercolor Paintings

Spring – green

Summer – yellow

Autumn – red

Winter – blue

Green

by Lilian Moore

Ducklings,
Look around.

That's treegreen
filling the sky

and there's grassgreen
running
up the hill
steeply.

the shadowgreen is
pine woods,
dark
old.

The yellowgreen is
young leaf
unfolding,
new
as you.

Breathe green
deeply.

The Sun

by Grace Nichols

The sun is a glowing spider
that crawls out
from under the earth
to make her way across the sky
warming and weaving
with her bright old fingers
of light.

Autumn Leaves

by Marilyn Helmer

Wind blows
and fills the skies
with gold and yellow
butterflies

which flit to earth
with skips and hops
to dance and twirl
like spinning tops.

The last one dips
in a puddle to float
like a single scarlet
sailing boat.

When All the World is Full of Snow

by N. M. Bodecker

I never know
just where to go,
when all the world
is full of snow.

I do not want
to make a track,
not even
to the shed and back.

I only want
to watch and wait,
while snow moths settle
on the gate,

and swarming frost flakes
fill the trees
with billions
of albino bees.

I want to watch
the snow swarms thin,
'til all my bees
have settled in,

and on the ice
the boulders ride,
like sleeping snow geese
on the tide.

I only want
myself to be
as silent as
a winter tree,

to hear the swirling
stillness grow,
when all the world
is full of snow.

First Grade
Four Seasons

- 6 "The Spinning Earth" from Treasury of Children's Poetry
p.130
The Day We Saw the Sun Come Up Alice Goudey
How the Earth spins round creating day and night
- 7 The Shadow Book Beatrice de Regniers
The Boy with Two Shadows Margaret Mahy
Shadows and sundials
- 8 Once I Knew a Spider Jennifer Dewey
How to read a thermometer – F and C

Temperature charades with poems
"To Walk in Warm Rain" p.63, "Duck Weather" p.62, & "Winter Days" p.64
- 9 "Snow Clouds" from Treasury of Children's Poetry
p.144
& "Wind Song" p.66
Types of precipitation, types of clouds

Painting the rainbow (Rauld Russell's book)

First Grade Four Seasons

- 14 Field Trip to Smithsonian's Natural History Museum
<http://www.mnh.si.edu/>

We have planned this field trip – I don't know if you would also want to head here, but it is a good follow up and conclusion to a Science block. We are going the last Monday in January. Also, since you are ending the month on the constellations it might be a good time for stargazing (do you have a local planetarium) or a family camping trip the final weekend in January, depending on the weather. ;-)

Let me know if you have any questions. My notes are for myself so they may be a little hard to follow. For the seasonal paintings I would recommend beginning with Winter (1- it is the season we are in and 2- it is only one color, blue on the white paper) and then Spring (blue + yellow), Summer (yellow + red), and Autumn (yellow + red but evoking a different mood, more challenging).

Take care,
Rhoda