A BUSY YEAR

Children can experience the change of the seasons as charming twin mice care for a special talking tree. An enjoyable book that will help children become aware of the natural world.

Author and Illustrator: Leo Lionni Ages: 4-7 32 Pages

Themes: Learning about seasons Building friendships

In this book Willie and Winnie, twin mice, have a great time getting acquainted with a new friend, Woody the tree. Talk to your child about how plants start from seeds and the importance of caring for living things. Plants and trees need care to survive just like people.

A fun activity to help your child understand how things grow from seeds is to cut either fruit or vegetables in half so that they can look at the seeds. This can help your child to:

*learn more about foods;

*recognize likeness and difference;

*learn about conservation

After you've cut open the vegetables or fruit, let your child find the seeds.

*Do they know why plants have seeds?

*What might happen if the seeds were planted?

*What differences does your child notice among the seeds? (Size? Shape? Color?)

You may want to help your child plant a few bean seeds in a small container and have your child water and watch to see what happens.