

# SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

## THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND

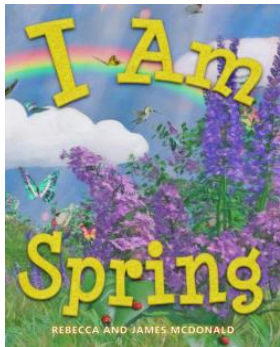


March 11, 2024

### COMING UP AT CORE SOUND...

- **March 12:** Community Night – “Coming Home” Portsmouth & Diamond City Homecoming @ 6 PM
- **April 6:** Core Sound Run @ 9 AM
- [Click Here to SIGN UP for Summer Camps & for More Upcoming Events!](#)

### Sound Reading Material For You and Your Child



#### I am Spring

By Rebecca and James McDonald

After the cold of winter, comes the warmth of spring. This book takes readers on a journey through the important events that occur uniquely in the beautiful season of spring. When the day becomes longer than the night and the leaves begin to sprout on the bare branches, get ready, because that means spring is here!

Pages: 40

Grades: preK-2

## The Meaning of Spring

As spring approaches, take time to notice the transformation that envelops our coastal landscape. With the arrival of warmer temperatures and lengthening daylight, nature will soon awake from its winter slumber, breathing new life into everything around us.

Spring is the season during which the natural world revives after the colder winter months. During spring, dormant plants begin to grow again, new seedlings sprout from the ground, and hibernating animals awake.

What most people call spring relies on the astronomical definition of the word. Defined by the angle of Earth's tilt toward the sun, astronomical spring relies on equinoxes and solstices to define it. Spring is generally considered the period between the spring equinox and the summer solstice.

Equinoxes are days during the year when day and night are almost equal. There are two equinoxes each calendar year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The spring, or vernal, equinox occurs around March 20 in the Northern Hemisphere. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), spring is one of only two times when the Earth's axis is not pointed toward or away from the sun. This year in the Northern Hemisphere, spring officially begins on March 19 and ends on June 20.

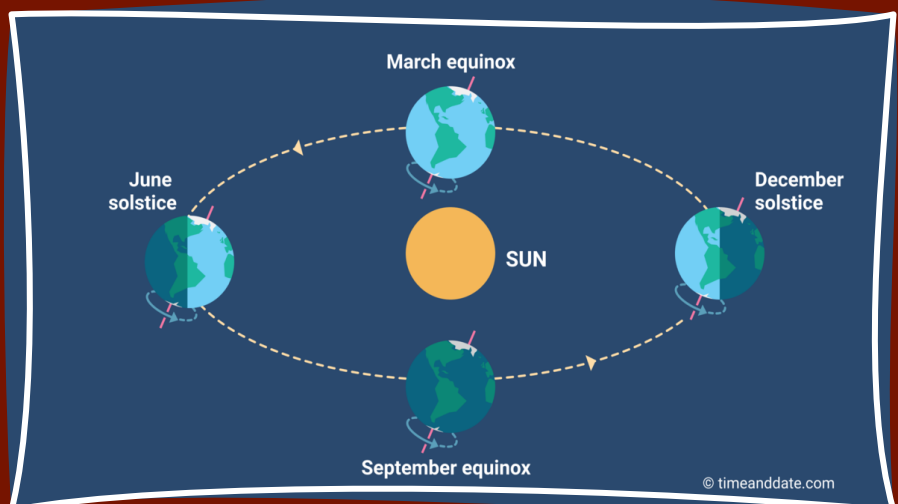


photo from www.timeanddate.com

## Down East Signs of Spring

I asked some local friends how they can tell spring is on its way to our area. Here's what they had to say!

When you see  
black headed  
seagulls and wild  
onions being cut  
off the side of  
the road ...

--David Paul  
Styron

NOR'EASTERS  
AND BLUE  
FEESH ...

--PAUL MORRIS

When you start seeing flocks of white  
ibis, laughing gulls cackling overhead  
(nesting and mating season usually  
starts in April), black bumblebees  
buzzing around, green grass popping up,  
robins in the trees... --Houston Lewis

The marsh  
smells a little  
different. Don't  
ask me how or  
why, it just  
does to me.  
And the birds  
start singing!  
--Della Brooks

We could always  
tell when "love"  
was in the air  
because the birds  
go wild! Everything  
starts budding and  
you can feel the  
wind shift making  
the air smell  
different. -Wendy  
Willis Lewis

*I always say things  
are "pairing up." It  
usually starts with the  
geese (it's already  
started) not too long  
after I start seeing the  
robins in the yard.  
Before long it'll be the  
little yellow butterflies  
and that's when you  
can count on two  
things -- spring is here  
and the feesh are  
running.*  
--Corey Lawrence

## SCIENCE for YOU

### A Peep into Diffusion

1. Arrange PEEPS in a circle around the inner rim of a plate. Use at least two different colors, alternating them in groups of two or three.
2. Fill a measuring cup or glass with warm tap water.
3. Slowly pour the water into the middle of the plate, until it partially covers the candy.
4. Watch the plate closely for a few minutes. *What happens?*
5. Empty and dry off the plate.
6. Make a circle of candy around the plate again.
7. Put a small pile of sugar (about a quarter teaspoon) directly in the middle of the plate.
8. Slowly pour warm tap water near the center of the plate (but not directly onto the pile of sugar).
9. Watch the plate closely for a few minutes.
10. What happens this time? Is it different than the first time?



*When you poured water onto the plate the first time, the coating of the PEEPS dissolved in the water. As a result, you saw the dye diffuse towards the plate's center.*

*When you put sugar in the middle of the plate the dye seemed to hit an invisible wall in the water and stop diffusing at first, then it diffused much more slowly. This occurred because in addition to colored dye, the candy's coating also contained sugar. Both the sugar and the dye dissolved into the water, forming a mixture called a solution.*