



*AMC Montessori  
Spring 2010 Hands-On  
Creative Lesson  
Planning Newsletter*

*The AMC Montessori Newsletter*

*Published by American Montessori Consulting*

*Heidi Anne Spietz, Editor*

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*<http://www.amonco.org>*

The AMC resource participants have generously shared hands-on activities that you will want to use in coming months. You'll be impressed with the ingenuity and creativity expressed in the recipes and crafts they have chosen to share with you. Use their ideas to foster interest in science, social studies, art, mathematics, and other academic hands-on learning activities. Integrate the recipes and crafts into your multicultural lesson planning as well.

Hopefully, you will let the participants know how much you have enjoyed their recipe(s) and craft(s). Visit the websites listed throughout the newsletter. You'll find additional helpful lesson information at these sites.

American Montessori Consulting is not responsible for any of the crafts or recipes posted here. All of the crafts and recipes are copyrighted and are the property of the participating AMC resource organizations listed in this newsletter. For questions concerning their individual copyrighted material, you need to visit the website listed in association with the craft(s) and recipe(s) that interest you and obtain the telephone number and/or e-mail address of the contact person(s).

If you would like friends on special listservs to know of this newsletter, please request that they download the newsletter directly from

[http://www.amonco.org/montessori\\_spring\\_handson.html](http://www.amonco.org/montessori_spring_handson.html)

Use special precautions when involving children in any craft or recipe where there is a potential for harm. Some children have special food allergies and/or other medical conditions like diabetes. Small children need supervision. Scissors, hot glue, hot stoves and ovens, and other elements in making some of these recipes and crafts need to be considered. Please consider carefully the age and maturity level of the child before allowing him or her to participate.

Be sure to visit each resource participant's site to see the marvelous selection of educational offerings you can use in your school and home classrooms. You'll also find creative, unique educational gift items that are sure to be enjoyed by the special young people in your life.

The following creative ideas are from the AMC Montessori Resource Center <http://www.amonco.org/directory.html> participants. Visit their websites for additional innovative ways to reach your students throughout the school year.



## **Contents of Part VII of the AMC Montessori Spring 2010 Hands-On Creative Lesson Planning Newsletter**

Fresh off the Cobb (Corn Casserole for your Freezer)

Needlepoint 101

Musical Lesson Plan for Spring from The Four Seasons by Antonio Vivaldi

# *Farm Country General Store*

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Website: <http://www.homeschoolfcgs.com>

## *Recipe Submitted by Larry*

### **Fresh off the Cobb (Corn Casserole for your Freezer)**

The following recipe is perfect to make during farmer's market time. It makes enough to store year round in your freezer, and tastes fresh out of the field anytime you reheat it. Perfect for potlucks or for the holidays, it is the first thing to go at our get togethers!

### Fresh off the Cobb (Corn Casserole for your Freezer)

18 ears of corn  
2 cups milk  
1 stick butter

Cut off the corn from the cobs and place in a deep casserole dish. Add the milk and butter and bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Cool and freeze. If you would like to jazz it up more, just add cheese and yellow, green, and red pepper.



## *About Farm Country General Store*

Farm Country General Store is currently revamping their site. You can access their impressive catalog online. Shopping for homeschooling curriculum and supplies has never been easier! Visit <http://www.homeschoolfcgs.com> for details!

# Ruth Dilts Design

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Website: <http://www.ruthdiltsdesign.com>

## Free Lessons Submitted by Ruth

**For free needlepoint lessons for children click on**

**<http://www.amonco.org/ruthdiltsdesign1.jpg>**

## About Ruth Dilts Design

NEEDLEPOINT 101: Guide to Painted Canvas is authored by Ruth Dilts. Ruth's work is recognized internationally and has been featured in articles online including some located at about.com Ruth has FINALLY written a book designed to help novices as well as the seasoned needlepoint enthusiast do decorative stitches on Painted Canvas. The book features 21 different stitches, including basketweave & continental - all diagramed and numbered, making the lessons easy to follow. Some of the stitches are also done in diagonal right and diagonal left.

The book also provides essential information which will help the beginner discover what type of canvas to look for, find the focal points of the canvas and assist in the selection of pick threads and stitches. Readers will also appreciate the stitch suggestion usage as well as other helpful hints for stitchers. There are 12 different canvas (in color), both plain and stitched, and with a description of how Ruth went about choosing stitches and threads. AVAILABLE THROUGH RAINBOW GALLERY.

Learn more about the Ruth Dilts Design product line by visiting <http://www.ruthdiltsdesign.com>. You'll also find a listing of some of the companies carrying the Ruth Dilts Design products.



# Classical Magic®

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Website: <http://www.singnlearn.org/>

**Lesson Plan for *Spring* from *The Four Seasons* by Antonio Vivaldi**

Marjorie Kiel Persons

Classical Magic®

<http://www.singnlearn.org/khxc/ccp0-catshow/classicalmagic.html>

The music, with and without lyrics, and an illustration can be found on:

**Age Group:** From **Pre-K up**. Choose the activities to suit the age group.  
All children can learn to recognize Vivaldi and know the themes from his music.

## Materials Needed:

**Volume 2 of *Themes To Remember* with CD\***

**Reproducibles for Volume 2** to make transparency for overhead projectors.

Reproducibles may also be used to make copies for coloring, reading, etc.

**Enlarged composer portraits** (see "order" page on web) are very useful. Mount them and laminate them for "hands on." The books also have a small portrait of Vivaldi.

Note: The CD has two tracks for each theme. The first track is music only while the second track has music with lyrics.

## Concepts:

signs of spring

piano and forte

repeat signs

composer – Vivaldi –Italy

mood

tempo

up and down direction

## Curriculum Integration:

the seasons

geography - Italy

literacy – fluency in reading

vocabulary

rhyming words

## Procedure:

1. Show the **illustration for *Spring*** in the book or projected on a screen.  
Ask children to look at the illustration and see if they can tell which season it is.

Call attention to **signs of spring** they may have missed.

2 Ask children who they think will "sing" louder, a dog or a cat.  
(The consensus usually is that dogs "sing" louder!)

The dog's name is Forte and the cat's name is Piano.

Explain that in music, **forte** means loud and **piano** means soft.

3. **Sing the lyrics with the CD.** The repetition makes it easy for children to follow. Say, "Forte - loud" as the children sing the first verse, and "Piano - soft" as they sing the second verse.

Do the same for the repeated section, "This music is by Vivaldi...."

Call attention to the **repeat sign**. [: :] Explain that this means to **repeat** the part between the signs.

4. Show children the **portrait of Vivaldi**. Have them repeat his name. Vivaldi is a **composer**, a person who writes music. Vivaldi wrote the beautiful music we just sang.

Does Vivaldi look like a man or a woman? (Why?)

Vivaldi is a man wearing a big wig. We call the composers from the Baroque Period "Big Wigs." Under his wig, Vivaldi had red hair.

He was called "The Red Priest."

Vivaldi loved music so much that he left the priesthood and started a school for orphan girls. He taught them to play string instruments and he wrote beautiful music for them. People traveled many miles to hear the girls play Vivaldi's music.

Vivaldi lived in Italy. (Show Italy on a world map.) Maybe Vivaldi wore big boots along with his big wig.

(See the web site – Materials, Examples, Periods in the Arts.)

<http://www.singnlearn.org/khxc/ccp0-catshow/classicalmagic.html>

(The Music Period illustrations are included in the Reproducibles) Even small children can find all the Big Wigs and put them in the proper period.)

5. **Mood and tempo in music.** Ask children how the music makes them feel? Sad? Happy? Angry? (Have children make a face that goes with

the music.)

Is the music good for springtime music? Why? Can the whistle like the birds sing?

Is the music fast or slow? (**tempo**) Pretend to fly like the birds with the music.

#### 6. **Up and down direction in music.**

On the first and second verses, have children raise their arms up to the birds on the first two lines, then touch their ears on "falling on my ear."

Does the music go **up or down** with their arms?

Does the music go **up or down** when they touch their ears?

7. As children learn the lyrics, let a child point to the words as the class sings. Singing is an aid to **literacy**. Children **learn left to right movement**, they sing with the **rhythm of the language**, they **develop fluency** and **build vocabulary**.

Finding the **rhyming words** also builds reading skills.

**Children learn music better with words and words better with music.**

<http://www.singlearn.org/khxc/ccp0-catshow/classicalmagic.html>

#### 8. **Play games**

As children learn more themes, their favorite game is "**Name That Tune.**"

Play the "music only" track and ask who can tell who wrote it and the name of the composition.

The one to answer correctly can be rewarded by singing a solo on one verse, by holding the composers portrait while everyone sings, or by putting the portrait in the correct Musical Period. Teachers can always think of rewards appropriate to their classes.

\*"Spring" can be found in both Volume 1 and Volume 2 of *Themes To Remember*. However, Volume 2 has all four of the *Four Seasons*.

For a complete list of all the themes included in the Classical Magic® series, go to:

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Marjorie Kiel Persons

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**tempo**

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**vocabulary**

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## *About Classical Magic®*

The program is based on educational lyrics written by Marjorie Kiel Persons, a certified and experienced children's educator. When children sing with classical music, it becomes their own. They become excited about it and want to play it on an instrument. They recognize it in cartoons, commercials, malls, and on cell phones! They develop self-confidence.

Introducing children to classical music at a very young age prepares them for a lifetime adventure with classical music. Visit <http://www.singnlearn.org/khxc/ccp0-catshow/classicalmagic.html> for details.



**Read the other parts of this creative hands-on lesson  
planning newsletter by visiting  
[http://www.amonco.org/montessori\\_spring\\_handson.html](http://www.amonco.org/montessori_spring_handson.html)**

*End of Part 7*

