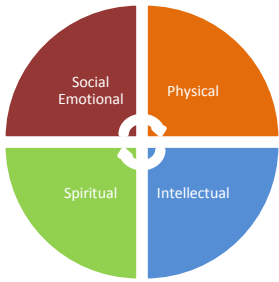


# Using Children's Literature to Supporting Learning in Developmentally Appropriate Ways



**Book Title:** *Step Gently Out* by Helen Frost and Rick Lieder

**Age:**  Infant  Toddler  Preschool-Aged  
(check as many as apply)

**Which areas of holistic development does this book support?**

(check as many as apply)

Intellectual  Physical

Social Emotional  Spiritual

**Essential Learning Experiences:** (Which specific experiences does this book support? Most books will support many different experiences so identify your focus.)

- Intellectual – Exploring words, creating and imagining
- Physical – Developing loco-motor skills
- Social emotional – Taking the perspective of others
- Spiritual – Connection to the natural world

**Vocabulary:** (Identify new words or phrases to introduce to children. When and how will you introduce the vocabulary and provide a way for children to experience/discover the meaning(s) in an active and developmentally appropriate way?)

- **Leap** – demonstrate and allow children to practice leaping.
- **Silken** – provide a variety of materials for children to feel including silk
- **Bathed in golden light** – project golden light in an area where children can interact with model insects or one they have created; experiment with light and shadow
- **Flashing** – provide a flashlight for children to experiment with, connect with knowledge – when/where have they seen flashing lights e.g. when power goes out clock flashes, snow plow



**Opportunities for Exploration and/or Representation:** (materials to create an invitation, representing ideas)

- Provide the tools (cameras or iPads etc.) and allow children to take photographs outdoors in nature. (Make sure you discover if you need to change settings on your camera for close ups photos)
- Provide large photos of insects/real insect in clear jars and natural colours of paint – green, brown, yellow in the art centre to encourage children to represent insects in their paintings

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**Opportunities to Extend:** (Ideas from the book based on interests of the children such as questions to encourage exploration, outdoor experiences, cultural connections, family engagement)

- Weaving – create a spider web using ribbon
- Music - create a bug song/dance together
- Obstacle course – together with the children design and create a bug obstacle course where the children can balance, climb, leap, splash, etc.
- Provide natural materials, props and space for children to reenact or create stories as shown below:



## **Cultural Connections/considerations**

Children from varying locations and cultures may have different experiences and attitudes to insects and nature. Be open, responsive and respectful of the variety of experiences that children and families bring to the program.