

Little Blue Truck's Springtime



Activity Kit



littlebluetruckbooks.com

Little Blue Truck's Springtime

Written by Alice Schertle, Illustrated by Jill McElmurry



Circle Time Activities

Invite children to come dressed like animals for your Little Blue Truck party. Before the party, prepare several of the masks from this kit so children who forget to come in costume can be Blue. Sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" and at the end, sing "Old MacDonald had a farm / E-I-E-I-O / And on his farm he had a TRUCK" with "Beep!" as the sound.

Play a Little Blue Truck version of Duck, Duck, Goose. Assemble the children in a circle on the floor. One child is Little Blue Truck and walks around the circle saying "Beep!" as he or she lightly taps each child's head in passing. To one child, Little Blue Truck says "Vroom!" and runs around the circle while the "Vroom" child chases Little Blue Truck back to the vacated space. The "Vroom" child becomes Little Blue Truck for the next round.

Include an interactive reading of *Little Blue Truck* and *Little Blue Truck's Springtime* as part of your party. Before you read the books, teach the children a hand signal: every time you tap your ear, the children shout out "Beep!" Practice this a few times so the children get the hang of it and can say "Beep! Beep! Beep!" in succession with three ear taps in a row.

It's not a spring fling without a dance party! Host a dance party, with a twist! Play freeze dance. As a reminder, here are the rules: Cue up the music. Everyone should be dancing when the music is on. At random, turn off the music! All the kids should be frozen. Whoever is caught still dancing is out! Let the winner hold the books as you read.

After reading *Little Blue Truck's Springtime*, talk about springtime with the children. Who does Blue meet along the way in the book? What are the words we use for the following baby animals? For reference, here are the answers: cows (calves), sheep (lambs), ducks (ducklings), pigs (piglets), frogs (tadpoles), chickens (chicks). Ask the children about other things that can be found in spring. What are some words and noises associated with those things? Make the children pantomime the action while saying it aloud. For some inspiration, here are some ideas for that question: bees (buzz buzz), butterflies (flutter), flowers (bloom), sun (shine), plants (sprout).



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Celebrate Spring with a Flower Crown

With the supervision of an adult, make a beautiful crown of flowers to spring into the season!

Materials:

Scissors	Wire
Tissue Paper	Ribbon
String or Twine	Glue Gun (Optional)

To Make the Flowers:

Step 1: Cut four pieces of tissue paper into 3" x 3" squares.

Step 2: Stack the pieces of tissue paper and fold them four times accordion style.

Step 3: Now take a 6" piece of string and gently tie it around center. Do not tie the knot too tight. There should be leftover string dangling which you will use later to attach the flowers to the crown.

Step 4: Using scissors, round both ends of the folded stack of paper.

Step 5: Slowly fan out each layer of tissue paper to open up your flower.

Step 6: Repeat steps 1-4 to create several flowers for your crown.

To Make the Crown:

Step 1: Using floral wire, measure the size of your head and add 2". Cut the wire and twist the ends together to create a circular shape. Test the size and adjust as needed.

Step 2: Use the dangling string from your paper flowers to tie them to the wire crown. Optionally, reinforce your knots with a dab of hot glue.

Step 3: Finish off your flower crown with a long ribbon at the back, where the ends have been twisted together.



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Daisy Maze Craze

Help Blue find his way to his friends!



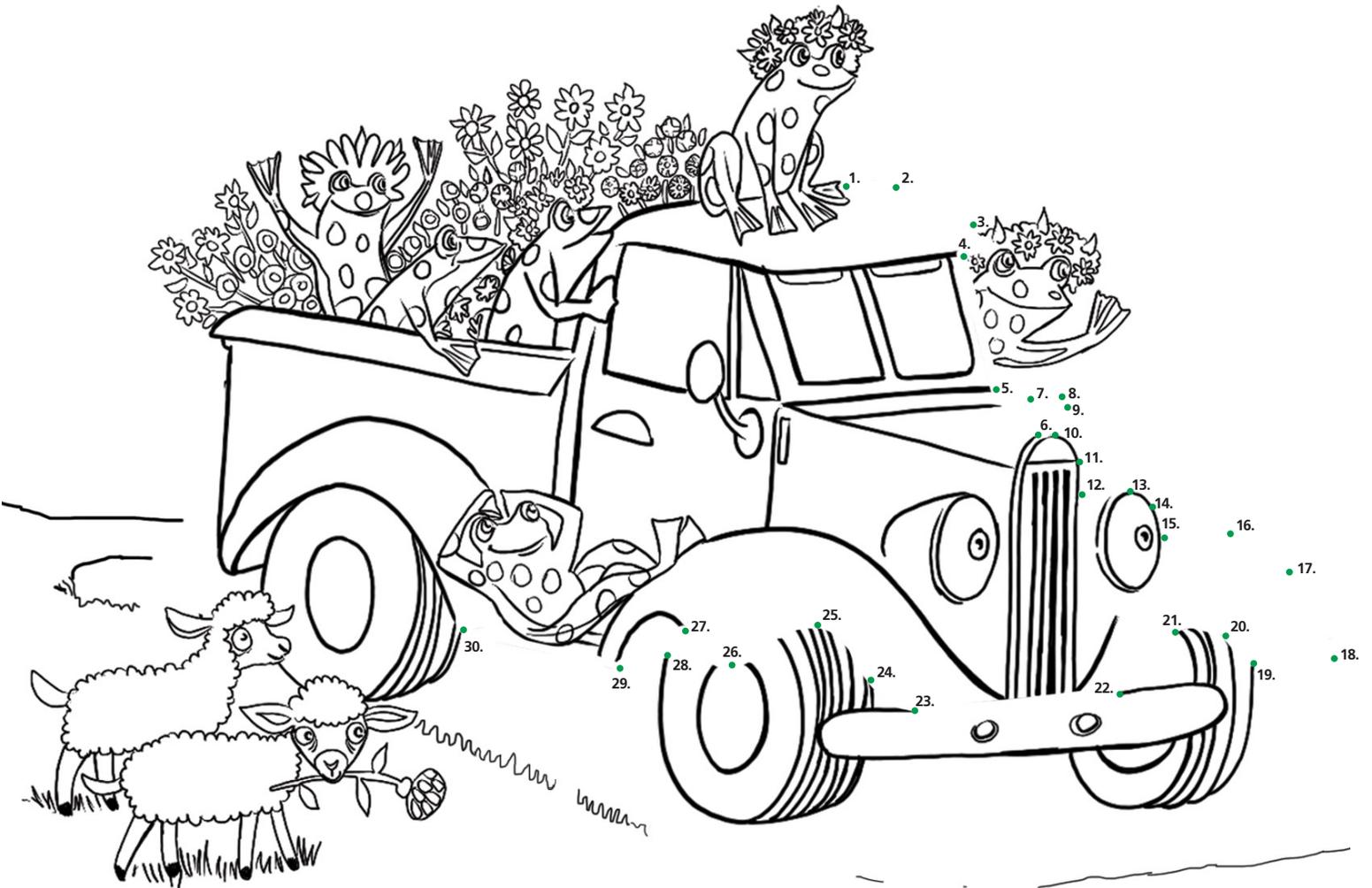
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Hop into spring!

Connect the dots and then color in the scene.



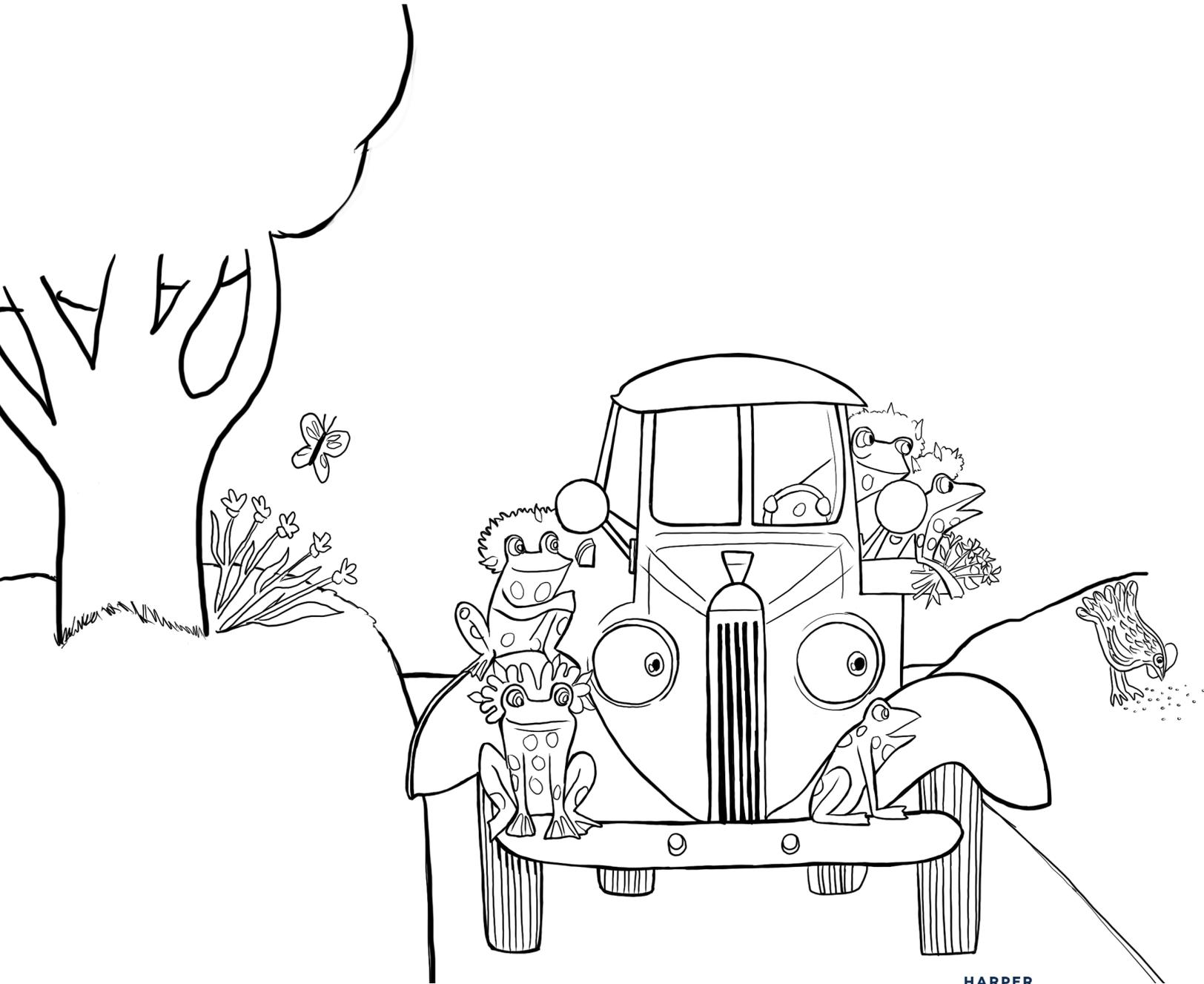
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What Does Spring Look Like?

Draw things you would find in spring around Blue and his frog friends!



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Little Blue Truck Mask

Print this page on card stock. With an adult, cut out the mask and eye holes on the dotted lines. Add a craft-stick handle to the bottom and hold the mask in front of your face.

