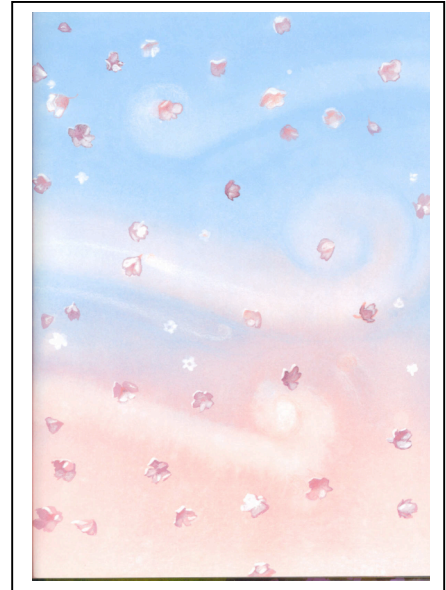


## Spring's Sprung ~ Learning Activities

· Write about sibling rivalry in your own family. All brothers and sisters fight with each other—that's NORMAL! What makes sibling rivalry unique are the details of the squabbles. Write about a memorable time you and one or more of your siblings had a squabble. What did you fight about? Who started it? How did it end? Also interview one of your parents or grandparents about his or her own memorable experience of sibling rivalry—asking the same questions: What did you fight about? Who started it? How did it end? Then compare your own experience of sibling rivalry with that of your parent's or grandparent's—how were they the same and different?

· Notice Greg Couch's design page at the beginning of *Spring's Sprung*. This opening page sets the mood for the story. Why do you think Greg Couch chose the colors that he used? Why do you think he chose flower petals for the small object that repeats across the page? DON'T look now, but Greg Couch also created similar design pages for the other season books: *Wild Child*, *Winter Waits*, and *Summer's Vacation*. What do you think would be good colors and small objects to include on the fall, winter, and summer books' design pages? Maybe you could draw a picture of a design for each season. Then look in the other books and see what Greg Couch actually used for colors and objects. Did they surprise you? Why or why not?



· Each of the sisters in *Spring's Sprung* is true to the characteristics of her own special month. That is, March has hair that looks like the wind blowing; and when she sings, at first, she howls and growls which later changes to whiffs and puffs (sort of like the phrase "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb."). What do you notice about the other two sisters, April and May? How do the words and illustrations match the characteristics of their months? What about other months? What if you tried to write about or do a drawing for the month of October or July or January? How would each month look, sing, dress, or act?