Family Storytime- based on “The Adventures of Peter Rabbit”

Books:

The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit, by Beatrix Potter (has multiple stories in it)

Peter is kind of a naughty little rabbit and gets into some trouble in Mr. McGregor’s garden. This series of stories includes adventures that Peter’s animal friends have as well.

Be My Friend (Peter Rabbit Animation), by Frederick Warne & Co.

Peter’s story has been taken to the screen in the animated version of this classic tale. Different episodes of the show have been published in book form.

The Spectacular Tale of Peter Rabbit, by Emma Thompson

Actress Emma Thompson has extended Peter Rabbit’s adventures by having him attend the fair that comes to his neighborhood. What kind of trouble will Peter and his friends get into?

Dear Peter Rabbit, by Alma Flor Ada

Goldilocks is having a birthday party and invitations are sent out to many of her storybook friends. But there could be problems from the Big Bad Wolf. Will the party be a success or will the storybook friends be in danger?
**Songs and Fingerplays:**

**Little Peter Rabbit**  
*(to the tune of "Battle Hymn of Republic")*

Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his ear.

Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his ear.

Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his ear.

And he flicked it till it flew away!

http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/songspoems66.html

**Bunny Bedtime**

“My bunnies must now go to bed,” *(Place both hands to cheek in a sleeping motion.)*

The little mother rabbit said.

“But I will count them first to see if they have all come back to me.

1 bunny, 2 bunnies, 3 bunnies dear, *(Count out on fingers.)*

4 bunnies, 5 bunnies – yes, all are here. *(Count out on fingers.)*

They are the prettiest things alive – *(Place arms together and rock them back and forth.)*

My bunnies, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.” *(Count out on fingers.)*

From kidsspace.torontopubliclibrary.ca/
Five Little Bunnies

Five little bunnies standing by the door,
One hopped away, and then there were four.
Four little bunnies sitting near a tree,
One hopped away, and then there were three.
Three little bunnies looking at you,
One hopped away and then there were two.
Two little bunnies enjoying the sun,
One hopped away, and then there was one.
One little bunny sitting all alone,
He hopped away, and then there were none!

(Hold up open hand and bend down one finger with each verse.)

https://www.tsl.texas.gov/readbunny/fingerplays.html

Arts and Crafts:

Prints with veggies- Mr. McGregor’s garden had lots of yummy vegetables in it. Let children paint prints using vegetables- broccoli, potatoes, cauliflower, etc.
Paper plate craft

Materials:
- Thin paper plates
- Googly eyes
- Cotton balls
- Pink pom-poms
- Markers or crayons
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue

(photo credit: https://www.pinterest.com/vondabearden/peter-rabbit-theme-ideas/)

Scarecrow- have materials available to make scarecrows (big or little) to put in flowerbeds or gardens. Talk about the role that scarecrows play in the garden.

Websites all about Peter Rabbit (with activities):

http://www.peterrabbit.com/uk

Science and Social Studies

Mr. McGregor’s garden - help children draw a map of Mr. McGregor’s garden. Include elements from the story- shed, fence, signs, rows of vegetables, etc. Ask which vegetables the children would like to grow if they had a garden.

Plant herbs - plant herbs with seeds or starts in containers that can be kept in the kitchen. As the herbs grow children can sample them and be used in cooking.

Cooking:

Veggie tray - put together a tray of fresh vegetables for families to snack on. Talk about whether those types of vegetables were the kind that Peter ate or Mr. McGregor had growing in his garden.

These cute little flowerpots of hummus have baby carrots growing out of them.

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/79727855876466287/

Cookbook - this PDF file is an adaptation of the story with recipes to go along with it.

http://mycountrycookin.com/peter-rabbits-family-recipes
Math:

**Button sorting** - Peter loses a button off the jacket his mother made him. Children can learn or practice sorting skills by collecting buttons from thrift stores, clothing being discarded, fabric stores, etc. If children under three are included in the activity, make sure buttons are large enough not to choke on.

**Measuring how much a watering can holds** - bring in a variety of watering cans and have children estimate how many cups of water each will hold. Then fill the watering cans with water to see how close their guess was.

**Large motor:**

Play a Hopping game or relay race. Talk with children about the difference between hopping and jumping. Do rabbits hop or jump?

**Bulletin board**: Use the theme “Hop into a good book” or create Mr. McGregor’s garden with pictures of the families in the garden.