

Name _____

Date _____



Spring Awakenings Family Page



Question: *What causes leaves to sprout in the spring?*

What's Happening in Class?

This spring your child will be observing changes in a selected tree bud near your home. Twice each week your child will be recording changes in his/her bud/leaf using words, pictures, and numbers. Observations will continue for a period of three or more weeks. Activities in the classroom will emphasize the connection between plants and various cycles (carbon, water, nitrogen). For more specific information on this lesson, visit the *Science for Ohio* website at www.environmentaleducationohio.org and click on the *Spring Awakenings* inquiry.

What Can We Do at Home?

- 1) Help your child to choose a tree bud for observation that is easy to reach.
- 2) Help your child schedule two times each week when she/he can make observations. The following directions are also listed on your child's Data Sheet.

Directions: Twice each week complete all of the following:

- 1) Draw a picture of your bud/leaf that is to scale. Include color, design, and any other details that may be important.
 - 2) Record the length of your bud/leaf in centimeters.
 - 3) Describe your bud/leaf in 15 words or more. Focus your writing on changes since your last observation.
- 3) Set aside time this spring to enjoy the change of seasons. Make a family trip to a local park or nature center.
 - 4) Locate information on the Internet or at your local library that explains the reasons for buds sprouting in the spring. www.yahooligans.com is a good place to start.

