

**Cactus**  
**By Christine Corona**

Cactus plants have prickly spines.  
Be careful how you treat them!  
The spines protect the tender plants  
So animals won't eat them!

The desert is where cacti live.  
It's very hot and dry there.  
Cactus plants do very well,  
But other plants might die there.

**In the desert,  
you can see . . .**

**Seed Life**  
**By Helen H. Moore**

A seed is planted:  
First a sprout,  
Then stem,  
and leaf,  
and buds  
come out.

Buds grow bigger,  
smelling sweet,  
bees and birds  
help flowers spread  
their new seeds on  
the garden bed...  
A seed is planted.

**To help a seed grow,  
you should . . .**

**Signs of Spring  
by Christina Corona**

When the snow melts away,  
And it's rainy and gray,  
And the birds are beginning to sing...  
Trees have tender green buds  
And the earth turns to mud-  
That's how you can tell it is spring!

No more mittens and boots  
No more bulky snow suits,  
It's too warm to wear all those things!  
Flowers bloom everywhere.  
Their perfume fills the air-  
That's how you can tell it is spring!

**The best thing about  
spring is . . .**

**Names of Bugs  
by Betsy Franco**

The butterfly is known to fly,  
The glowworm likes to glow,  
The grasshopper can hop about  
as you and I both know.

But tiger beetles never roar,  
and horseflies never neigh.  
The firefly, although it's bright,  
is not on fire- no way!

The names of bugs may bring delight,  
but names of bugs aren't always right.

**I think bugs are \_\_\_\_\_,  
because . . .**