Plant Poetry
Life of a Plant

A plant will grow from a tiny seed,
Some water and sun is all you need.

First the roots grown underground,
They suck up minerals from all around.

Then come stems, some tall, some stout,
And next the branches spread about.

Leaves grow in all shapes and sizes,
Watch this new life as it rises.

Flowers bloom from buds on stems,
They are as pretty as precious gems.

Some plants give us juicy fruit,
Some have vegetables at the root.

New seeds travel to and fro,
By wind and water, on the go.

And the cycle keeps on going,
Soon new stems and leaves are showing.

- Risa Jordan

Activity:
As you read this poem aloud, invite kids to act it out, or even choreograph a dance to it.
UNDER THE GROUND

What is under the grass,
Way down in the ground,
Where everything is cool and wet
With darkness all around?

Little pink worms live there:
Ants and brown bugs creep
Softly round the stones and rocks
Where roots are pushing deep.

Do they hear us walking
On the grass above their heads:
Hear us running over
While they snuggle in their beds?

- Rhoda W. Bacmeister

SEEDS

The seeds I sowed –
For week unseen –
Have pushed up pygmy
Shoots of green;
So frail you’d think
The tiniest stone
Would never let
A glimpse be shown.

But no; a pebble
Near them lies,
At least a cherry-stone
In size,
Which that mere sprout
Has heaved away,
To bask in sunshine,
See the Day.

- Walter de la Mare
A Spike of Green

When I went out
The sun was hot,
It shone upon
My flower pot.

And there I saw
A spike of green
That no one else
Had ever seen!

On other days
The things I see
Are mostly old
Except for me.

But this green spike
So new and small
Had never yet
Been seen at all!

- Barbara Baker

Little Brown Seeds

Little brown seeds so small and round,
Are sleeping quietly under ground.
Down come the raindrops
Sprinkle, sprinkle, sprinkle.
Out comes the rainbow,
Twinkle, twinkle, twinkle.
Little brown seeds way down below,
Up through the earth they grow, grow, grow.
Little green leaves come one by one.
They hold up their heads and look at the sun.

Author Unknown
Caterpillar Garden

Over in the garden
Underneath a tree,
I saw some fuzzy caterpillars,
One, two, three.

Over in the garden,
Underneath the moon,
Each caterpillar spun herself
A wonderful cocoon.

Over in the garden,
Right before my eyes,
Those caterpillars all turned into
Lovely butterflies!

- Helen H. Moore
MAYTIME MAGIC

A little seed
For me to sow...

A little earth
To make it grow...
A little hole,
A little pat...
A little wish,
And that is that.

A little sun,
A little shower...
A little while,
And then – a flower!

- Mabel Watts

LITTLE SEEDS

Little seeds we sow in spring,
Growing while the robins sing,
Give us carrots, peas and beans,
Tomatoes, pumpkins, squash and greens.

And we pick them,
One and all,
Through the summer,
Through the fall.

Winter comes, then spring and then
Little seeds we sow again.

- Else Holmelund Minarik
The Earthworm

Here comes the Earthworm
Poking his head up out of the ground
While the night is still in the sky.

He'd better watch out
Or the early bird will get him.

Look at him closely
Before he burrows away into the earth.
He has no eyes and no ears,
But only a mount.
And see how his body is made of rings—
Ring after ring in a long, long row,
And each of his rings is spiked with bristles—
Bristles so tiny they’re hard to see
Without a magnifying glass.

The bristles are there to help him crawl.
He pushes them into the soil around him,
Then pulls himself along, right by ring,
Like an acrobat climbing up a pole.

That’s how the Earthworm does his work
Underneath the ground.

- Author Unknown
TREES: THE SEEDS

We are
Given light wings,
Parachutes, downy legs
That we may be carried aloft
By wind

And drop
Where some kind mouse
Will bury us in earth;
Some squirrel will forget we are food,
Leave us

To sprout
Green shoots, to weave
Rootlets, that we may eat
And drink and grow in time our own
Small seed

- Myra Cohn Livingston