



# Rap It Up and Take It

Presented By

Scott Feille

Program Director, REAL School Gardens  
sfeille@realschoolgardens.org



*Metamorphosis: Nature Transforming Lives Transforming Nature*

realschoolgardens.org

*A school garden can change the world.*

## Rap It Up and Take It

### Changes and Transformations in Nature

**Science TEKS:** <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter112/ch112a.html>

K.7, 1.7, 2.7, 3.6, 4.6, 4.7, 4.10, 5.6, 5.7, 5.11

**K.7** Science concepts. The student knows that many types of change occur. The student is expected to:

- (A) observe, describe, and record changes in size, mass, color, position, quantity, time, temperature, sound, and movement;
- (B) identify that heat causes change, such as ice melting or the Sun warming the air and compare objects according to temperature;
- (C) observe and record weather changes from day to day and over seasons; and
- (D) observe and record stages in the life cycle of organisms in their natural environment.

#### Remember:

- Consider grouping children according to which beat they prefer.
- Kids absorb the beat if you play it while they are observing nature, brainstorming and thinking of rhyming words.
- Remind children to use all of their senses. You may consider seating your students outside with blindfolds, and recording their observations as they call them out.
- Just because a rhythm is fast, doesn't mean you have to rap fast. You can rap in half-time.
- Explain song structure in terms of reading objectives:
  - The chorus is a Main Idea that is repeated.
  - Verses are details that support the Main Idea stated in the chorus.
- This is an opportunity to explore syllables and synonyms when grade appropriate. Sometimes you might need a two syllable word instead of a three syllable word to accommodate the beat. Consider using a thesaurus to find one.
- Some children may want to experiment with developing a rhythm for their words using nonsense or scating like, "dada tee da, boom-boom-bap". Once they have a basic rhythm they can find the words that fit.
- Manage class transitions by using a CD player with batteries and doing a line dance or stepping routine on your way out to the garden. Give others in the building a "heads-up" before you get started so you don't totally disrupt them!
- Provide your active students with an opportunity to show off by dancing or leading the line inside and out.
- Consider giving children instruments such as shakers, maracas, and small drums.
- Consider growing gourds to make shakers of your own.
- Take pictures or film your students to document their work.
- Perform for other classes, PTA, etc.
- Share your creations with REAL School Gardens staff! We want to experience your work!
- Consider focusing on a particular subject like life cycles or weather, then creating raps throughout the year to document change over time
- HAVE FUN!