

strong glaring sun should in winter, when the light is feeble, be kept at a day temperature of 60 degrees, and that of night at 45 degrees. I recall how once a principal of a school in a comparatively new building showed me the perfect sanitary conditions of different rooms. In one room was a collection of thrifty plants, giving every evidence of plant comfort. Those plants told me the conditions of heat and ventilation more eloquently than the best sanitary engineer could have done. Beginning with March the average is not so cold, and, therefore, the air that is supplied the schoolrooms is not so much baked, and has a greater per cent of moisture.—*Home Nature Study Course*.

Sense Training for March.

A study of March as the windy month may be profitable and lay the foundation of closer observation of some of the phenomena of nature.

Is there snow on the ground to-day? Is it thawing or freezing outside? Which way does the wind blow? Draw on the board a weather vane to show me which way it blows. What does the mercury say to us to-day? What shall we name this month when we see how many days the wind has blown hard? Draw pictures of people going down a street; of children going to school. How shall I know from your pictures that the wind blows? Find out when the sun rises. When it sets. Is to-day longer or shorter than Christmas day? Is it colder or warmer? Is there more snow or less?

Look at the trees. Are they dead? How can you tell? Where are there any leaves? How are they covered? Make a picture to tell what you saw when I cut a bud open. Can you find any old leaves hanging on the trees? Pull them off. What did you find under them? Cut the bud open and see if these have more covering or less than the others. Why?

Bring a horse-chestnut twig to school. See the bud on the end. What can you tell me about it? Look at the stem of the twig. What do you see there? What will come there next summer? What do you think is in the bud? Look at the twig that has been in our glass of water for a week or two. What do you find in that end bud? Put our bud and twig in water, too, and see if the same thing will happen.

Look at your twigs and see if any of them have tried to come out too soon. If they have, they will have no little green leaves folded in their brown coats. See if there are any little buds hidden by them to help the tree grow if Jack Frost has hurt them.—*C. M. H., in The Western Teacher*.

Busy Work.

One winter, while teaching a country school nine miles from any village, I utilized calendars for the busy work of my school. The winter being severe, I seldom got my mail, and the schoolroom helps I had sent for were so delayed I had to "put on my thinking cap" to find something to take their place, and the result of those thoughts I will now give for the benefit of other teachers similarly situated.

I took a calendar which had very large figures on each leaf. Having some thin cardboard, I fastened each leaf on a piece of cardboard of same size. I gave each pupil one leaf, and it is really surprising the variety of uses these leaves were put to. It was considered a rare treat and reward for the pupils to cut these leaves into squares, one number on a square. Then the additions, subtractions, etc., which each pupil evolved from his leaf (or squares) were remarkable. These were small pupils, and I was amazed to see how diligently they would search for the square, with answer to problem to place beneath it. For instance, $10 + 12 = 22$, etc.

A teacher can use one calendar (the twelve leaves) usually more than one term. I was surprised that so few of the numbers were lost, also surprised at the rapidity with which the pupils learned to add and subtract. Each pupil seemed to take pride in his box of numbers, and in taking care of it. Sometimes the exercises were varied by copying the numbers on slate or blackboard, each trying to write them as nicely as in the copy.

This simple play-study kept them quiet and interested, and taught them what they would, at their tender years, have felt a hardship to have been compelled to learn by rote. It also pleased the parents, and gave the children new ideas as to the uses of the once despised old calendars.—*Mrs. A. L. Thompson.—Exchange*.