

## ***Dandelion Magic***

**Author:** Darren Farrell

**Illustrator:** Maya Tatsukawa

### **Related Books:**

[\*My Life as a Dandelion\*](#) by John Sazaklis

*Dandelion* by Don Freeman

*The Dandelion Seed* by Joseph Anthony

*Dandy* by Ame Dyckman

*Dandelions* by Eve Bunting

### **Related Websites:**

[Author Darren Farrell Read-aloud](#)

[Darren Farrell author website](#)

[Maya Tatsukawa illustrator website](#)

### **Activities:**

#### ***Language Arts/Communication and Information Skills***

- Read the story and encourage students to listen and help save Jonah by blowing when the author asks them to.
- Have students write what their dandelion wish would be.



#### ***Math/Science/Technology***

- The Mindful Evolution of the Dandelion <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAEIC4d5kWc>
- What is the Dandelion? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRegW-QTT4A>
- Growing Dandelion 🌱 from Seed to Seed Head (1 Year Time Lapse)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6pjGwkK2po>
- Take your class outside to look for dandelions. Count the number of seeds on a mature seed head.
- Extract natural pigment from dandelions: Add the flowers to a jar along with a solvent (acetone-based nail polish remover, or alcohol). Let it stand about half-hour or more, then filter through cheesecloth or fine mesh. You can use the pigment to paint on paper, dye white fabric or yarn, make dandelion playdough, or add a few drops to a paper towel for a *chromatography experiment*. If you crush the flowers in the mortar and pestle before adding them to the glass, your color will be slightly more saturated. From Kidminds website  
<https://kidminds.org/12-remarkable-dandelion-experiments-and-activities-kid-favorite/>
- Dye Eggs with Dandelion Flowers: Go for a nice, long walk and gather lots of dandelion flowers. Bring them to the boil in a pot of water and simmer for 15 minutes. I recommend at least three dozen flowers for each cup of water. After that, add eggs and boil for another 15 minutes. If you want the color to be more intense, add a pinch of turmeric before adding the eggs to the pot. From Kidminds website  
<https://kidminds.org/12-remarkable-dandelion-experiments-and-activities-kid-favorite/>
- Stem experiment. Talk about how the flowers absorb water with their roots and the water travels up the stems and into the flower. Peel the stems off several dandelions into strips. Place them in water and watch the stems curl up because the cells inside the stems absorb the water and expand. Try it again with salt water and see if you get different results. From  
<https://www.proverbialhomemaker.com/dandelion-unit.html>

### ***Social Studies/History/Geography***

- Research how dandelions have been used throughout history for food and medicinal purposes.
- Research how the dandelion got its name.

### ***Art/Music/Drama***

- How to Draw a Dandelion for Beginners <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gg9duRFeGXU>
- How to Draw a Dandelion Seed Head <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1X163ngtDSc>
- Dandelions  Dandelion | The Treebees Kids Songs | Relaxed Playtime
-  The Dandelion Song: with AAC Core words, Spring vocabulary, Dandelion Life Cycle (I a...
- Make a Dandelion Rock Family: <https://littlepinelearners.com/dandelion-rock-family/>

### ***Enrichment Express***

- Paint with Dandelions: Gather some dandelion blossoms. Dip dandelions into paints and stamp them on paper. The imprints look like flowers. Or fireworks?
- Make Dandelion Playdough  
<https://wildflowerramblings.com/homeschooling/dandelion-playdough-recipe/>