Summary: With her sure and loving gardener’s touch, Mrs. Spitzer nurtures the students in her classroom each year.

Background for Teacher: This book works well with lessons on acceptance, creation, life, and teaching.

Initiating Activities
1. Ask students what they look forward when a new school year begins.
2. Look out the classroom windows or take a walk outside and ask students to call out all the things God created from the tiniest ant to the largest tree.
3. Ask students what makes a good teacher.

Critical and Creative Thinking
1. Describe Mrs. Spitzer’s classroom.
2. What are the seeds Mr. Merrick, the principal, give to Mrs. Spritzer?
3. What do plants need to grow well?
4. What do you need to grow well?

Responses:
1. Make a classroom garden. Give each student several scraps of paper and instruct them to draw and cut out flower shapes. Glue the cut shapes to straws or ice cream sticks. Place the finished flowers in a shoebox filled with sand to make the classroom garden.

Optional Activity: Pictures of the students can be put in the center of the flowers or they can write their names instead of using the seeds.

2. Write a two-word poem about creation. Two-word poems are limited to two words per line. There is no rhyming and no set number of lines. Encourage the students to be creative and use colorful language as they write two-word poems about creation. Illustrate the finished poems.

Example:
cod’s gifts
funny animals
tall trees
flying birds, etc.