

# Week of the Young Child

**Dates:** April 8-12, 2019

**Goal:** Raise public awareness in support of young children

The Week of the Young Child provides an excellent opportunity to highlight the value of young children and the importance of early learning. Engage your local community in the magic of ECE! Build support for improving conditions for early learning in Southeast PA. To engage your community in the Week of the Young Child, consider following the themes suggested below.

<b>Monday</b>	Create Art!
<b>Tuesday</b>	Take a Walk
<b>Wednesday</b>	Connect with Community
<b>Thursday</b>	Showcase Talent
<b>Friday</b>	Gallery Night

*See reverse for more suggestions, tips, and resources!*



*L: Children at Precious Angels showcase the robots they built during 2018's Week of the Young Child; R: Pottstown Business leader is presented a Valentine card at a Pre-K program.*

**Share your Success!** Send pictures, videos, and stories of your Week of the Young Child events to [Elizabeth.Ozer@Firstup.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Ozer@Firstup.org) to be featured in another issue of Connection.

## Week of the Young Child: April 8-12, 2019

<b>Monday</b>	Create Art!	<p>Children, families, and community members create art inside and outside of the program, using any media or materials.</p> <p>Use artwork as invitations to your Friday Gallery (or other event), and bring some on a neighborhood walk to give as gifts. Save one masterpiece from each child to hang in your Gallery.</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Take a Walk	<p>Take a walk around the neighborhood with signs, artwork, and musical instruments!</p> <p>Let children express themselves through signs, artwork, and music throughout the walk. Engage with neighbors and businesses—introduce yourself and your program, invite children to share stories, provide artwork for them to hang in the window (make sure it's signed!). Check the weather and set a rain date!</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	Connect with Community	<p>Invite a business leader, local legislator, or community leader (pastor, e.g.) to visit your program and meet the children.</p> <p>Prepare questions for the children to ask their visitor, stories to share about high-quality early learning, and opportunities to work together—making art, reading stories, sharing a snack, etc. Present them with a thank-you card!</p>
<b>Thursday</b>	Showcase Talent	<p>Children and staff practice their favorite songs and beats to share with their classmates and community, or perform songs, dances, or short skits (demonstrating important skills, retelling classroom events, etc.)</p> <p>Children can perform for other children, can gather in front of the building to sing to the community, ask a local church or business to host the singers, or travel the neighborhood caroling door-to-door.</p>
<b>Friday</b>	Gallery Night	<p>Show off the week's work! Paintings, sculptures, "Day in the Life" stories, videos of skits, pictures from neighborhood walks, etc. Include children in the presentation, through talking about their art, sharing stories of the week, or passing out snacks.</p> <p>Invite the community to come see what happened this week! Pass snacks chosen by children, send invitations (made by children) early.</p>

### Prep:

1. Invite your legislators to attend!
2. Send home a calendar of events to families in advance!
3. Make lots of art the weeks prior!

### Tips:

- Include families and food
- Engage on social media! Use the hashtag #StartStrongPA

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