

Week of the Young Child

Dates: April 13-17, 2020

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.

Monday	Create Art!
Tuesday	Take a Walk
Wednesday	Connect with Community
Thursday	Showcase Talent
Friday	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 to be featured in another issue of Connection.

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Monday	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>
Tuesday	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>
Wednesday	Connect with Community	<p>Invite a business leader, local legislator, or community or religious leader 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>
Thursday	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>
Friday	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 families and the community to come see what happened this week! Pass snacks chosen by children, send invitations (made by children) early.</p>

Prep:

1. Invite legislators and others to attend!
2. Send home a calendar of events to families in advance!
3. Make lots of art and invitations!

Tips:

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

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