



Week of the Young Child Suggested Activities

Here is a list of ideas for how you can incorporate the Week of the Young Child in your classroom. These ideas can be a way to connect with your children's families, as well as to celebrate with the children.

Use this list to stimulate your own ideas for making the week an experience that both the children and their families will remember.

1. On Monday April 15, 2013 pair up with a neighborhood public school or childcare center to march around the neighborhood or participate in a special activity together. This can be a nice way to "kick off" the Week of the Young Child and make the school and neighborhood aware of this special time.
2. Display children's artwork in a public place, i.e. libraries, malls, banks, and community offices
3. Invite guests to the classroom to read to the children.
4. Celebrate a "Stuffed Animal/Toy" Day. Invite everyone to bring his/her own special animal/toy in to share with the class.
5. Use photos of children for various activities; i.e. photo display or memory game.
6. Become pen pals or story partners with older children or other classes.
7. Have a school or neighborhood cleanup

8. Make bubbles in the classroom and bring them outside.
9. Make a poster or mural of classroom activities that support the Week of the Young Child theme. Display it in a local library, store, or school.
10. Create an exciting treasure hunt for the children in your class.
11. Invite older children or other guests to put on a puppet show for your class.
12. Have an art exhibit with the children's work.
13. Make picture puzzles by mounting the children's photographs on tag board and laminating them. Cut the pictures into three or four pieces and encourage the children to assemble them.
14. Create a Family Photo Match game. Ask parents and caregivers to send in family photographs. Mount these photos on tag board, laminate them, and place them in a basket. Encourage the children to sort the photos into family groups. Photos can also be displayed in family photo albums.
15. Invite parents to send in musical CD's and audiotapes from home that represent some family favorites. Play the children's home music at various times throughout the daily routine.
16. Plan visits to local establishments such as the grocery store, pizzeria, pet store, bakery, doctor/ dentist office, bank, etc.
17. Plan a special "Dress Up Day" such as "Pajama Day", "Crazy Sock Day", or dress in your favorite sports team clothing or accessories.
18. Have a "Crazy Hat Day". Have each family design a crazy hat for their child to wear to school.
19. Reach out to the Parents Council to make them aware of the Week of the Young Child. Ask them if they would like to be involved in the week's activities.
20. Have a celebration on the last day of the week. Possible suggestions include an ice cream party, multicultural parent luncheon, a picnic, or beach party



Week of the Young Child

Suggested Songs

I Am Special

(tune: Frere Jacques)

I am special,

I am special,

Look at me, you will see,

A very special person,

A very special person,

That is me,

That is me.

You are special,

You are special,

Look at you, yes it's true,

A very special person,

A very special person,

That is you,

That is you.

We are special,

We are special,

Look at you, look at me,

A very special person,

A very special person,

That is you,

That is me!

This Old Smile
(tune: This Old Man)

This old smile,
It is mine.

When I'm happy,
Watch it shine.

When I'm playing, learning,
Being friends with you,
I can make you smile too!

This old smile,
It is wide.

When I'm happy, it can't hide.

When I'm giving, sharing,
Making friends anew,

I can make the world smile too!

The More We Get Together
(traditional tune)

The more we get together,

Together, together,

The more we get together,

The happier we'll be.

Because your friends are my friends,

And my friends are your friends.

The more we get together,