

naeyc<sup>®</sup>

# Week of the Young Child<sup>™</sup>

The Week of the Young Child<sup>™</sup> is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, and families.

**This year's event is April 16–20, 2018!**

We're so excited for a week long celebration of our youngest learners! Start planning your celebration today with event ideas and activities below! Find more at: <https://www.naeyc.org/events/woyc/overview>

## **Music Monday! April 16, 2018: Sing, dance, celebrate, and learn**

Through music, children develop math, language, and literacy skills - All while having fun and being active! Make up and record your own unique version of a song or write your own.

**TRY THIS:** *Find the beat to connect music, movement, and math. Practice clapping, drumming, or stomping to the beat of the music while counting.*

## **Tasty Tuesday April 17, 2018: Healthy eating and fitness at home and school**

This fun, food-themed day is about more than just cheese and crackers. Cooking together connects math with literacy skills, science, and more. With the rise in childhood obesity, you can encourage healthy nutrition and fitness habits at home and in the classroom.

**TRY THIS:** *Measure your ingredients while making your snacks! Ask children if they'd like the same or different amounts of each ingredient.*

## **Work Together Wednesday April 18, 2018: Work together, build together, learn together**

When children build together they explore math and science concepts and develop their social and early literacy skills. Children can use any building material—from a fort of branches on the playground to a block city in the classroom, or a hideaway made from couch pillows at home. Build and share pictures of children's creations on

**TRY THIS:** *Practice organizing blocks by size! Try building a block tower with large blocks on the bottom and little blocks on top!*

## **Artsy Thursday April 19, 2018: Think, problem solve, create**

Children develop creativity, social skills and fine motor skills with open-ended art projects where they can make choices, use their imaginations, and create with their hands. On Artsy Thursday celebrate the joy and learning children experience when engaged in creative art making. Use any materials—from crayons to paint, clay to crafts!

**TRY THIS:** *Bring art outdoors! Offer dark and light paper, chalk and pastels, and suggest children create their own versions of the day and night sky!*

## **Family Friday April 20, 2018: Sharing family stories**

Engaging and celebrating families is at the heart of supporting our youngest learners. NAEYC applauds family members' role as young children's first and most important teachers. Share pictures and stories about your family.

**TRY THIS:** *Invite parents for a Family Friday breakfast, where children can prepare and share breakfast treats with their families!*

**Create and share a photos of your children's creations on NAEYC's Facebook page or Twitter using the #woyc18 hashtag.**