



WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD BOOKLIST

Music Monday

Sharing stories and music adds magic to your environment and interactions with the children in your program. Kick off your WOYC with songs, stories, and movement on Music Monday! Here are some books to get you started.



Featured Favorite | **Never Play Music Right Next to the Zoo** by John Lithgow

A summer evening concert in the park next to the zoo becomes a hilarious, delightful disaster when the animals escape and take the stage! Talk about their experiences listening to live music. Ask children to imagine what would happen in their town if the animals took the stage. What instrument would a pronghorn play? How about a grizzly bear? Children will be enchanted by the YouTube video read/sung by the author, John Lithgow. (<https://youtu.be/1WYBEQ5Od2M>)

Stories You Can Sing and Songs You Can Read!

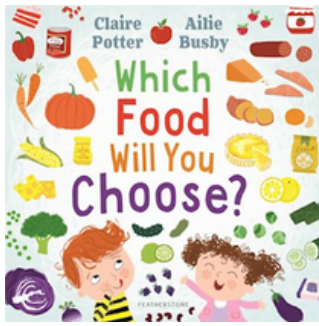
- John Denver's *Grandma's Feather Bed* by John Denver Adapted (2007) Ages 1-5 years
- *Old MacDonald Had a Truck* by Steve Goetz (2016) Ages 2-7 years
- *Over in the Meadow* by Olive A. Wadsworth (1995) Ages 1-4 years
- *If You're Happy and You Know It!* Adapted by Anna McQuinn (2011) Ages 2-7 years
- *Baby Beluga* by Raffi and Ashley Wolff (1997) Ages Baby to 3 years
- *Wheels on the Bus* by Raffi (1998) Ages 0 to 3 years

More Musical Favorites

- *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees (1999) Ages 2-4 years
- *My Family Plays Music* by Judy Cox (2018) Ages 4-8 years
- *Stomp, Wiggle, Clap and Tap: My First Book of Dance* by Rachelle Burk (2021) Ages 1-3 years
- *Wild Symphony* by Dan Brown and Susan Batori (2020) Ages 2-6 years
- *Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin* By Lloyd Moss

Tasty Tuesday

Tasty Tuesday is a day of yummy learning! Children are often surprised to learn that some unfamiliar foods taste great! Encourage conversation about likes and dislikes and where our food comes from. This is a perfect day to invite families to share traditions around mealtime and to join you for some tasty treats.



Featured Favorite | **Which Food Will you Choose?** by Claire Potter

After reading *Which Food Will You Choose*, you may want to have Tasty Tuesday all week! A cranky mother is tired of serving the same foods to her children every day. She invents a fun way to involve children in making choices to liven up their mealtimes. Each day, they go to the market and choose foods by color! On Monday, the children choose three red foods; on Tuesday, three yellow foods; and on Wednesday, three green foods. The bright illustrations make all the possible choices look yummy! What a fun way to encourage reluctant children to try new foods. How could you try this idea in your program and share it with families?

Tasty Choices

- Amara's Farm by JaNay Brown-Wood (2021) Ages 3-7 years
- Bread and Jam for Frances by Russell Hoban (1964) Developing readers and read aloud for ages 3-6 years
- Eating the Alphabet Fruits and Vegetables from A to Z (1989) and Growing Vegetable Soup (1990) Written and Illustrated by Lois Ehlert, Ages 2-5 years
- Every Night is Pizza Night by J. Kenji Lopez-Alt (2020) Ages 3-5 years
- Lunch by Denise Fleming (1996) Ages 3-7 years
- Mealtime by Elizabeth Verdick (2011) Ages 1-3 years
- Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story by Kevin Noble Mallard (2019) Ages 2-6 years
- Round as a Tortilla: A Book of Shapes by Roseanne Greenfield Thong (2013) Ages 3-5 years
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle (1994) Ages 1-5 years
- Try It! How Frieda Caplan Changed the Way We Eat by Mara Rockliff (2021) Ages 4-8 years

Work Together Wednesday

When communities come together and include children, everyone benefits. Being part of a community of learners gives children the opportunity to practice working and playing together. Sharing stories is a way to engage children in conversations about characters who discover the benefits of respecting others, lending a hand, and being a friend.



Featured Favorite | **Together We Can** by Caryl Hart

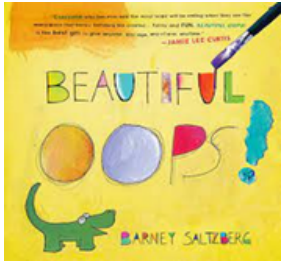
"All over the world and since time began. We show every day that together we can!" Working, playing, helping, comforting, baking and making, sharing and loving, when children work together, friendships blossom. Everything is more fun when daily routines and activities are filled with cooperation and acceptance. Work together to make a class mural or book depicting how children in the space work together. Using drawings, photos, quotes, and labeling, encourage children to bring their cooperation and friendship to life. Invite families to join and add their own experiences. What a powerful way for children to "show every day that together we can!"

Stories About Working Together

- Bear Came Along by Richard T. Morris (2019) Ages 2-5 years
- Boxitects by Kim Smith (2020) Ages 3-7 years
- Farmer Duck by Martin Waddell (2017) Ages 3-7 years
- Green Green: A Community Gardening Story by Marie Lamba and Baldev Lamba (2017) Ages 3-6 years
- Thank You, Omu by Oge Mora (2018) Ages 3-6 years
- The Little Red Hen La Gallinita Roja Retold by Carol Ottolenghi (2007) Ages 1-5 years, English/Spanish on each page
- The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister (1992) Ages 1-5 years
- The Squirrels Who Squabbled by Rachel Bright (2018) Ages 3-5 years
- Up the Creek by Nicholas Oldland (2017) Ages 3-7 years
- Want to Play Trucks by Ann Stott (2018) Ages 3-7 years

Artsy Thursday

When communities come together and include children, everyone benefits. Being part of a community of learners gives children the opportunity to practice working and playing together. Sharing stories is a way to engage children in conversations about characters who discover the benefits of respecting others, lending a hand, and being a friend.



Featured Favorite | Beautiful Oops! by Barney Saltzberg

Torn and bent paper, drips and smudges, and other “beautiful oops” become surprising opportunities for art in this interactive treasure. Children learn that when things don’t turn out the way you planned, it may be a chance to create something unique. A perfect addition to Artsy Thursday, your classroom, or home library to encourage young (and not so young) artists to see that art doesn’t always go as planned. Sometimes, what we make of the OOPS is more beautiful than what we initially imagined.

Artsy Books to Share

- Alma’s Art by Roda Ahmed (2022) Ages 2-5 years
- When I Draw a Panda by Amy June Bates (2020) Ages 4-8 years
- Color Dance by Ann Jonas (1989) Ages 4-8 years
- Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni (2017) Ages 2-5
- I Ain’t Gonna Paint No More by Karen Beaumont (2005) Ages 2-5 years
- Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh (1989) Ages 2-5 years
- Not a Box by Antoinette Portis (2006) Ages 2-5 years
- The Dot by Peter Reynolds (2003) Ages 4-8
- The Scraps Book Notes from a Colorful Life by Lois Ehlert (2014) Ages 4-8 years

Family Friday

Ending the week with families is a perfect way to round out the Week of the Young Child. On Friday, work together to create your own “family album.” Offer children materials to do an artsy representation of their family, play some music, and enjoy some colorful, tasty treats!



Featured Favorite | Families by Shelley Rotner and Sheila M. Kelly

It looks more like a family album and reflects all kinds of people in all types of families. Children will see families like their own and those that are different, but they all have fun together, celebrate together, take care of one another, and love each other. The book’s last line says, “There are many different kinds of families. What about yours?” On Family Friday and every day, remember to celebrate the most important people in the lives of the children in your program.

More Family Friday Favorites

- Around the Table That Grandad Built by Melanie Heuiser Hill (2019) Ages 3-7 years
- A Family Is a Family Is a Family by Sara O’Leary (2016) Ages 4-8 years
- Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes (1991) Ages
- Happy In Our Skin by Fran Manushkin (2015) Ages
- Last Stop On Market Street Words by Matt De La Pena (2015) Ages
- Let Me Tell You About My Mom by Casey Rislov with Ron Hayes (2023) Ages 4-7 years
- My Heart Fills With Happiness by Monique Gray Smith (2016) Ages Baby to two years
- Powwow Day by Traci Sorell (2022) Ages 4-8 years
- The Napping House by Audrey Wood (2009) Ages Baby-4 years
- Who Takes Care of You? By Hannah Eliot (2021) Baby to 2 years

