



# Pre-K Press

April 2024

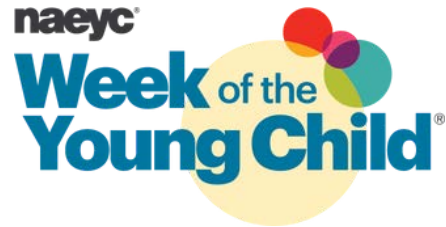


## Week of the Young Child: April 6th - 12th

The Week of the Young Child® is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Established in 1971, the purpose of the WOYC is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

Click [HERE](#) to find resources for each of the daily themes:

- Music Monday
- Tasty Tuesday
- Work Together Wednesday
- Artsy Thursday
- Family Friday



Be sure to use the hashtag to spread the word!  
**#WOYC24**



## Changes to Approved Assessment Tools!



Beginning in SY 24-25, there will be some changes to the list of progress monitoring tools. Check out the [Commissioner's List of Approved Prekindergarten Assessment Tools](#) to see which tools made the list. Don't fret! 99% of you use assessment tools that are still on the approved list. If, however, you are interested in checking out the new options available, visit the [Vendor Showcase](#) page, scroll down to the bottom, and click on each logo to learn more about the product.



WORLD  
AUTISM  
ACCEPTANCE  
DAY

APRIL  
2ND

## April is Autism Acceptance Month!

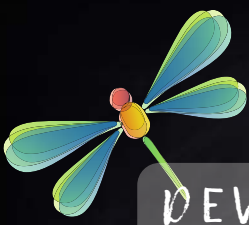


For local Autism support and events, visit the [Autism Alliance of the Concho Valley \(AACV\)](#)



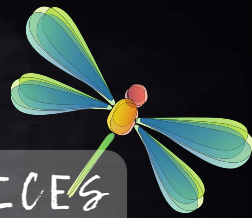
Form a team and join the [AAVC Walk for Autism](#) on April 27th from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. at the Bill Aylor Sr. Memorial Riverstage in San Angelo!





# DAP CENTRAL

DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE PRACTICES



## Read Aloud & Extensions

### Compost Stew

Start out by reading *Compost Stew: An A-Z Recipe for the Earth*, and talk about compost - what it is made of, how it works, and why it is good for the earth. Next, focus on the book's **amazing** collage illustrations! Encourage students to use recycled materials to create their own collages (**process art** - not product)! Finally, create a class compost bin to see it in action! (**HERE** is an example of a DIY compost "bin" that would allow you to make several!)



## Math

### Race to Recycle

As Earth Day approaches (April 22nd), support math skills such as counting, subitizing, and using one-to-one correspondence while also discussing the important habit of recycling! Print the game board(s), attach them together, grab a die and some color cubes, and be the first to get your item to the recycle bin! (No worries if you're not first. When we recycle, we all WIN!)

Click below to print our your gameboard & instructions.



## PA: Syllabication

### Syllable Sort

Sort theme-related objects (or pictures) based on their number of syllables. Create equal columns on a piece of paper and label them with 1... 2... 3... Gather objects (animals, insects, foods, etc.) or pictures that have 1 - ? syllables in their name. Name each item first, and have students repeat so they are able to focus on the syllables rather than wondering the name. Take turns saying the name, clapping it, and placing it in the column with the correct number of syllables. (See animal example.)



This activity is from the **CIRCLE Activity Collection** in CLI Engage. If you do not have a CLI account, click the title or picture to access a copy of the activity.

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## Invitation to Create

### Playdoh Play & Creation

Do you ever offer open-ended opportunities for students where you supply the materials and they provide the imagination? If not, let me introduce "Invitations to Create." Simply provide materials such as playdoh, colored gems, twigs, rocks, plastic insects, etc., and let students just **create**. Here are a couple of example trays to use as an invitation for students.





# PRE-K BOOK NOOK



## When the Sky Roars



Little Liam is tired of being afraid when the sky roars - thunderstorms are NOT his favorite. So, he's off on the ultimate quest to find out what's roaring and get it to quit!

This silly, light-hearted (completely fictional) story will certainly bring smiles on any rainy day! When The Sky Roars is also a great reminder that there are often sweet things awaiting for you on the other side of a fear faced.

## Greta and the Dark Cloud:

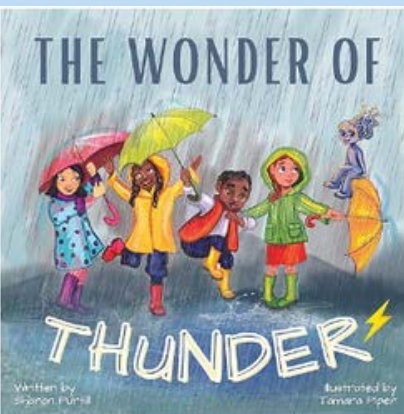
### A Story About Overcoming Fear and Anxiety for Kids



Greta can't stop thinking all day long about the dark cloud that seems to be following her. Finally forced to confront the storm that follows, she learns it brings good things, too.

Not just for children who are afraid of storms... This story is a wonderful example of a child dealing with fear and anxiety. It stresses preparedness. It also shows that some scary situations can't be avoided and that reward follows doing hard things.

## The Wonder of Thunder



This light hearted rhyming picture book helps tame fears while highlighting all the wondrous things thunderstorms can do. Children will adore Sally Storm, a lovable character who excitedly shares all the good she can do as she swirls and tumbles overhead. This book introduces the topic of storms, thunder, lightning, and rain in a fun and non-threatening way.

Colorful and captivating illustrations pull children into the story and hold their attention through to the end, where Sally shares more fun facts about thunderstorms and engages children through direct questions.





# Pre-K PD Sessions Summer 2024



- **The Power of Words... Even When There are None**  
**(Wordless Picture Books in Early Childhood)**

Unlock the potential of wordless picture books in your early childhood classroom! This session will be an illuminating exploration into the world of visual storytelling and its profound impact on language development, critical thinking, and creativity in our young scholars. Let's embark on a path where every child's voice is heard, even when there are no words.

**6/20/24 - Session #312931**



- **What's the Secret Code? Integrating Tech in Pre-K, Kinder, and 1st**

Tech integration can be a challenge with littles! Come get hands-on tech ideas for your Pre-K, Kindergarten, and First-grade classrooms, and learn to use Beebots across content areas. Plus, find out how to check them out to use in your classroom!

**6/24/24 - Session #298445**



- **To Clip or Not to Clip**

Dive into a thought-provoking session that examines the use of behavior clip charts in classrooms. Explore the impact of such systems and discover alternative approaches that foster positive behavior, student engagement, and a supportive learning environment. Join us as we consider/evaluate the dilemma that is behavior management while adding tools to support positive classroom culture and effective communication and collaboration between educators, students, and parents.

**7/1/24 - Session #316650**



- **What's in a Name? Teaching Letter Knowledge in Meaningful Ways**

Did you know that almost every language skill necessary for learning to read can be introduced using children's names? Children have very personal and emotional connections to their names. Let's take advantage of this connection to teach letter knowledge and literacy skills with meaning!

**7/18/24 - Session #310937**



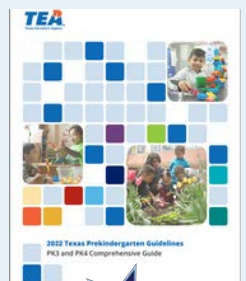
- **2022 Texas Pre-K Guidelines**

New to Pre-K? (Or did you miss last summer's session?) Let's dive into the 2022 TPGs to gain understanding of student outcomes, experience activities that meet the outcomes, and add to your toolbox for SY 204-25!

**\*Each participant will receive a copy of the 2022 TPGs!\***

**\*THIS IS A REPEAT OF SUMMER 2023\***

**7/22/24 - Session #317597**



**APRIL SHOWERS  
Bring  
MAY FLOWERS**





# ESC 15 ECE TEAM



**Carey Peacock**

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**JOIN the ADVENTURE!**

Registration is now OPEN!

July 10th - 12th  
ESC15 in Lubbock

Register for ATYC 2024 and choose breakouts at the following link:  
<https://bit.ly/ATYC2024>

**ATYC**  
Where the ADVENTURE Begins



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**NEW**

## CIRCLE Progress Monitoring Pilot Items

To ensure CIRCLE Progress Monitoring is aligned to the updated 2022 Pre-K Guidelines, CLI is launching pilot items in Phonological Awareness and Math. CLI sent out a short video in their newsletter regarding the new Phonological Awareness items, and you can view it [HERE](#).

You are encouraged to assess these pilot items to support data analysis on these new items and provide insight as CLI continues to enhance CIRCLE Progress Monitoring.

## EOY Assessments are right around the corner!

**TEA states the assessment window for Wave 3 is April - May. Check with your district admin or data personnel for specific dates to ensure all assessment data is gathered and entered into ECDS.**



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