

Celebrating the Month of the Young Child

April is the Month of the Young Child - when we celebrate our children, their families, and the people who support them, such as family members, teachers, daycare providers, doctors, neighbors, and anyone who works with or cares for young children and their families. One special week of the month is designated the Week of the Young Child by The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), April 6-12 this year. Each day of the week has a theme to promote fun ways to support young children's growth and development at home with their families. Join us in celebrating our young people by participating in some of these activities at home, and join us with the Leelanau Children's Center on April 20 for an open house and parade through Leland! (More details on page 4).



Music Monday



Singing, dancing, & listening to music helps children develop their language & muscles, & stimulates brain development. Put on some favorite music & have a dance party!



Work Together Wednesday



Teamwork makes the dream work! Creating things together builds problem-solving, language, early math & science skills, & social skills. Plus, it can be fun! See what you & your child can build together using different materials found around the house such as cardboard, sticks, cans, or anything you can imagine!



Family Friday



Family fun day! What does your family like to do together? What makes your family unique? Share favorite stories with your child & celebrate what makes your family great!



Tasty Tuesday



Playing with your food is okay! Exploring different kinds of foods with all your senses helps children learn how to try new things, understand their body's senses, and builds vocabulary! What color is this strawberry? What does it feel like in my hand? Is it soft, wet, squishy...? Does it make a sound when I bite it? How does it smell? What can I taste?



Artsy Thursday



Open-ended art projects with a variety of materials lets your child explore their creativity, plan & problem-solve, & develop fine motor skills. Art can be messy with young children, but it is more about the process than the final product!

Thank you to everyone in our community who loves, cares for, and supports our young children! As the saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a child." We are grateful to be part of a village that values our young children and families.

