



Pre-K Press

April 2025



Week of the Young Child: April 5 - 11

Celebrate with story, sound, and song! Check out the link above for event ideas, classroom activities, resources, and more! You can also download the [2025 Week of the Young Child Advocacy Toolkit](#) for ways to advocate for Early Childhood as you celebrate this wonderful week! Take your activities and ideas to social media, and remember to use the hashtag: **#WOYC2025**



ATYC Registration is now OPEN!

That's right! It's time to sign up for the **BEST** early child conference in Texas!

Join us **July 9th - 11th** at Crestview Church in Midland.

Register via [ESC 18](#). You will need to create an account to register. If you need help with the registration process, check our our [Registration Walkthrough](#). You can also visit our [ATYC website](#) or [Facebook page](#) for the latest information.



Earth Day is Tuesday, April 22nd!

How are you and your students celebrating and helping protect our planet?

Phonological Awareness

Recycle Sound Sort

Sort items into their correct recycling bin according to how many syllables they have. Review the words with students, have them clap the word, and then place it with the bin with the correct number on it to "recycle" it!

***Click the picture below for a link to the printable activity and all the instructions you will need. It even has the Texas Pre-K Guidelines included in this activity.**



STEM

Recycled Robots

Encourage imagination, creativity, and reusing items to create recycled robots. This can be done as a whole group activity as children work together to create one large class robot; children can create their own from a bin of recyclable materials; **OR** you can encourage family engagement by inviting families to come work with their students to make their robots.

*Ask for donations of clean, recyclable items from home and others on campus for about a week before you create your robots.

For reference, here is a pic of my youngest when he created his own recycled robot!



Loose Parts & Natural Art

Create Natural Insects

Have children gather natural objects to create an art and sensory center! They can gather objects while out at recess; you can take a nature walk as a class (give everyone a ziplok bag); and you can ask students to bring items from their yard or a park near their home. Look for leaves, twigs, pebbles, wood chips, pine cones (yes, there are some in Texas here and there!), and other items that could be used to spark their imaginations.

Keep the items in a bin/tub, and add some plastic/play insects or photos of insects for inspiration. Let children create insect replicas or create a new insect with a fun name, and have them tell you about it. Include paper and writing utensils to promote drawing/writing about their insect(s).



As Students Create:

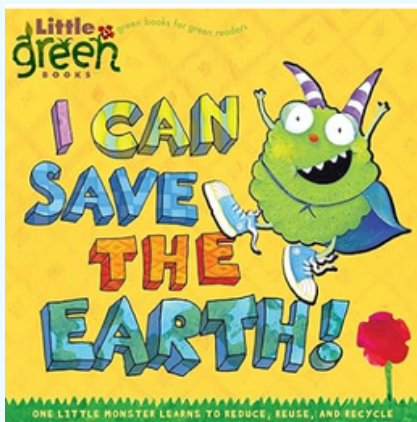
- Ask them about the body parts: head, thorax, abdomen.
- Take photos to print (on paper) and display at the center.
- Encourage students to draw the insect they created.
- Provide paper and glue for a final creation.



PRE-K BOOK NOOK

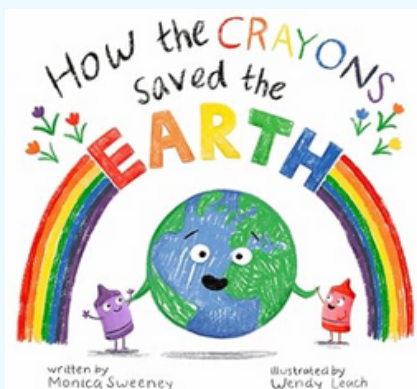


I Can Save the Earth!: One Little Monster Learns to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle



Meet Max the Little Monster. He is a cute, furry green monster who is an environmental nightmare. Among other things, he leaves on all the lights, keeps his computer plugged in, blasts the TV, hoards his old toys and uses so much toilet paper it clogs the toilet until finally, his excessive ways cause a power outage. With no TV to watch, computer to play on, video games to play with, Max finds there is a whole big world outside that he can make a difference in the environment.

How the Crayons Saved the Earth



Something is happening to our big green and blue Earth! Pollution is making it hard for plants to grow, for animals to play, and for oceans to stay clean. But what can anyone do about it? On a yucky, smoggy day, a box of seven special crayons steps up to help! These peppy crayons are on another adventure to bring friendship, teamwork, and thoughtfulness to the world—but this time, it's the world that needs help. With their unique personalities, quirky attitudes, and stick-to-itiveness, this rainbow of friends puts their heads and hearts together to find a way to save the Earth.

Why Should I Recycle?



Part of every child's development involves asking questions. Today, some of the most important questions kids ask are related to protecting the world around us. This book explains in simple terms and concepts why recycling is so important and what children can do every day to help protect Planet Earth! There is also a note at the back of the book for parents and teachers, suggesting ways to use the book most effectively.

Let's
Read



NEVER
STOP
READING



ESC 15 ECE TEAM



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Summer ECE PD Sessions:

April is when we open up our summer PD sessions, and it has crept up on me quicker than I anticipated! Here is what's on the books for early childhood:

- **6/9** - Building Young Thinkers in Social Studies: PK - 2nd [Session #366350]
- **6/11** - Beyond Counting & Bugs: There's More to Pre-K Math & Science! [Session #366159]
- **6/18** - Write for the Right Reasons in Early Childhood [Session #366153]
- **6/24** - The Power of Words... Even When There Are None (Wordless Picture Books) [Session #339722]
This is a repeat from Summer 2024.
- **6/26** - Empowering Early Literacy in Pre-K [Session #364938]



And... Yep! They are back-to-back and all in June!



That way you can attend ATYC in July!



DON'T MISS OUT!

Lessons from LaRoux

We all know that our students' behaviors rarely tell their whole story. Their verbal and physical actions often serve as clues pointing to deeper needs, emotions, and desires. In his book, **Lessons from LaRoux: How Needs Shape Behavior in Developing Brains**, Dan St. Romain addresses 15 key areas the developing brain needs in order to acquire the behavior skills necessary for healthy learning and growth.

**** This is an online, self-paced book study course within Canvas.**

You will have until **MAY 16th** to complete all assignments needed to receive your **10 CPE hours**.

***** There are only a few books left!**

***If you received a book from ATYC and would like to join for CPE credit, email me at: carey.peacock@esc15.net.**

