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Week of the Young Child Celebrates the Early Years as Learning Years

Week of the Young Child is a national celebration of children, their families, and the early learning that takes place during those years of development. This year, Week of the Young Child is April 12 to 18. Child Care Resource Network (CCRN) is planning to celebrate Week of the Young Child with special story times in partnership with local child care centers and New York State Legislators who believe in the importance of celebrating our youngest learners.

On Monday, April 13 at 10:30 am, New York State Senator Marc Panepinto will read stories to the preschool children at Stepping Stones Family Child Care, 4103 Bryant Street, Blasdell.

On Wednesday, April 15 at 10:00 am, New York State Senator Tim Kennedy will read to the Pre-K class at The Belle Center, 104 Maryland Street, Buffalo.

Also, CCRN has partnered with the Buffalo and Erie County Library System to offer story times that are open to the public. Those include:

- The Week of the Young Child kick off at the West Seneca Library (674-2928) on Saturday, April 11 at 11:00 am. This preschool story time features the book, <u>Knuffle</u> <u>Bunny</u>. A bunny craft will also be offered.
- Preschool story time at the Kenmore Library (873-2842) on Tuesday, April 14 at 11:00 am. The book, <u>The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry</u> <u>Bear</u> will be featured. Children will make their own books to take home.
- All children are welcome to the Audubon Library (689-4922) on Thursday, April 16 at 5:00 pm for a Curious George story time. A Curious George craft will also be offered.
- School age children are welcome to the story time at Dudley Library (823-1854) on Friday, April 17 at 4:00 pm for an animal adventure, including reading the book, <u>The Brave Little Owl</u>.

To register for any of these story times, please contact the specific library. For more information on these story times and Week of the Young Child, please contact Grace McKenzie, Marketing & Outreach Specialist at 877-6666 ext. 3071 or <u>gmckenzie@wnychildren.org</u>.

Since 1987, Child Care Resource Network has advocated for quality child care and education for all children. CCRN is a nonprofit organization providing child care referral services and resources for families and employers, child care provider registration and licensure, continuing education for child care providers, and nutrition resources for child care providers. Its mission is to support families, child care providers, employers, and the community by developing and advocating for high quality, accessible and affordable child care and education for all children.