

Teacher Appreciation Week Activities

Infants (0–12 months)

1) Fingerprint Thank You Card

Use baby-safe washable paint and cardstock paper. Help each baby make a fingerprint or handprint on the card. Let it dry completely before adding a short message such as, “Thank you for helping me grow!” and the date. This makes a simple keepsake that families and teachers can both enjoy.

2) Teacher Love Photo Frame

Take a photo of each baby with their teacher or in the classroom. Glue the photo onto construction paper or cardstock. Babies can help decorate the edges with supervised paint dots or simple textures added by an adult. Finish by writing a short note such as, “Happy Teacher Appreciation Week!”

3) Music for My Teacher

Play soft music during group time and let babies shake rattles or move scarves while sitting with their teacher. Smile, sing, and gently move along with the music. Take photos during the activity and use them to create a small classroom display that celebrates the teacher-child bond.

Young Toddlers (12–24 months)

1) Flower Bouquet Art

Give toddlers paper flower cutouts and a sheet of paper. Show them how to glue the flowers onto the paper to make a bouquet. They can add tissue paper pieces, scribbles, or colorful marks around the flowers. When the page is finished, add a note such as, “Thanks for helping me bloom!”



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2) Teacher Appreciation Dance Party

Play fun music and invite toddlers to dance with their teachers. Add scarves, ribbons, or shakers to make the activity even more exciting. Pause every so often so children can clap and cheer for their teachers. This is a simple way to make appreciation feel joyful and active.

3) Sticker Thank You Poster

Tape a large sheet of paper to a wall or table and write “We Love Our Teachers!” across the top. Give toddlers stickers and let them fill the poster with color. The finished poster can be hung in the classroom or hallway as a cheerful surprise for teachers.

Toddlers (2 years)

1) Thank You Card Decorating

Fold cardstock into simple cards and let children decorate the front with crayons, dot markers, or stickers. Keep the design process open-ended so children can create freely. Inside the card, an adult can write each child’s thank-you message. This makes a sweet and simple appreciation activity for twos.

2) Favorite Color Collage

Give children tissue paper, glue, and paper. If you know the teacher’s favorite color, invite children to use that color along with other bright choices. Children can press tissue paper pieces all over the page to make a colorful collage. Display the finished art together as a class appreciation wall.

3) Classroom Helper Day

Choose simple helper jobs for the children, such as picking up books, passing napkins, or helping wipe tables with support. Explain that helping is one way to show teachers kindness and appreciation. Praise the children for being caring helpers and end the activity by thanking them for helping their teacher.

Preschoolers (3 years)



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1) Teacher Thank You Book

Give each child one page to draw a picture of their teacher or something they enjoy in the classroom. Ask each child what they would like to say about their teacher, and write their words on the page. Put all the pages together into one class book. This becomes a meaningful keepsake that teachers can look back on later.

2) Appreciation Parade

Let children make simple signs with messages such as, “We Love Our Teachers!” Play upbeat music and lead a short parade around the classroom or hallway. Encourage children to wave, cheer, and clap. End the parade by gathering together and giving one big classroom cheer for the teachers.

3) Flower Pot Craft

Cut out paper flower pots and flower shapes ahead of time. Let children decorate the flowers and glue them above the pot to create a bouquet. Add each child’s name to a flower if you would like. Finish with a message such as, “Thank you for helping us grow.”

Pre-K (4 years)

1) All About My Teacher Poster

Create a simple poster template with prompts such as, “My teacher is kind because...” or, “My teacher helps me...” Let children draw and answer the prompts with their own ideas. If needed, help them dictate their thoughts. Hang the posters together to create a Teacher Appreciation display.

2) Special Snack Celebration

Plan a simple classroom snack or treat if your program allows food activities. Let children help set the table, make placemats, or decorate the snack area. Talk about how celebrations are one way to show gratitude. Share the snack together and make the teacher feel special during the celebration.



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3) Compliment Circle

Gather children in a circle and talk about nice things teachers do every day. Invite each child to share one kind sentence about their teacher. Write the compliments on chart paper as the children speak. At the end, read all the compliments aloud to the teacher.

Kindergarten (5–6 years)

1) Thank You Letter or Drawing

Give children paper, crayons, and pencils and ask them to draw their teacher or a favorite classroom memory. Then invite them to write one or two thank-you sentences. Encourage them to think about something their teacher helps them do. These can be collected into a class set or displayed for Teacher Appreciation Week.

2) Teacher Award Certificates

Make simple award certificates with titles like “Kindest Teacher,” “Best Helper,” or “Super Star Teacher.” Let children decorate the certificates with drawings and bright colors. Present the awards during group time so teachers can be recognized in a fun and memorable way.

3) Favorite Classroom Memory Chart

Ask children to share a favorite classroom memory involving their teacher. Write each response on chart paper and let children add a drawing to go with it. Once the chart is complete, read it aloud to the teacher. This is a nice way to celebrate meaningful classroom moments.

School-Age (6+ years)

1) Appreciation Banner

Give each child one banner piece to decorate with words, drawings, or thank-you notes for teachers. Once all the pieces are finished, attach them to a long string. Hang the banner in the classroom, hallway, or staff area. This works well as a group project that looks festive and thoughtful.



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2) Teacher Trivia Game

Ask teachers a few fun questions ahead of time, such as their favorite color, favorite snack, or favorite book. Turn the answers into a guessing game for the class. Let children guess which answer belongs to which teacher. Afterward, reveal the real answers and enjoy learning fun facts together.

3) Kindness Coupon Book

Give children paper strips or small coupon templates and help them write kind promises such as, "I will help clean up," "I will use kind words," or, "I will listen the first time." Staple the pages together into a class coupon book. Present it to the teacher as a creative appreciation gift.



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