

**naeyc**  
National Association for the Education of Young Children



## Writing and Publishing Articles and Blog Posts for Aspiring and Established Early Childhood Authors

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## What we Publish



Exchange's  
story



NAEYC's  
story

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What do I want  
to write?

Who do I think  
will read it?

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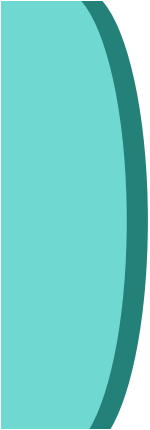
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## Poll #1 and #2

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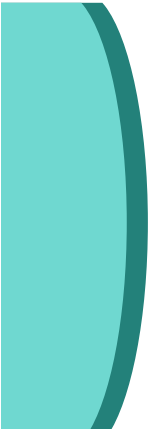
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## What topics are you interested in writing about?

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### ECE Audiences

- ✓ Directors
- ✓ Teachers
- ✓ Faculty
- ✓ Families

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Who reads Exchange Magazine?



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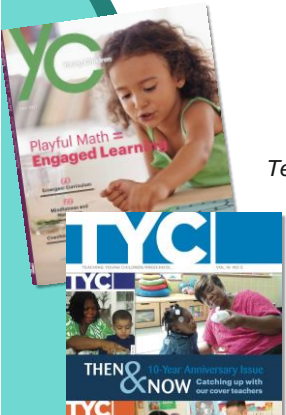
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Who reads NAEYC's Young Children? Teaching Young Children? Content for Families?



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### Our assumptions

- You are an educator, graduate student, program director or advocate in the early childhood field.
- You may or may not have written an article or blog or had your writing published.

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## Our assumptions (continued)

- You may have always wanted to write or something may have inspired you to want to write now.
- You have a message that needs to be heard.

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## How do I begin to write an article or blog?

- Ask yourself: What can others learn from me? What topic am I passionate about tackling?
- Identify and read other articles or blogs on that same topic
- Identify publishers that specialize or have an emphasis in early childhood education
- Read the publisher's' instructions for submitting a proposal

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## How do I begin to write an article or blog? (continued)

- Identify your interest or passion
  - What part of this topic do you want to share with the field?
  - What makes your expertise or perspective unique?

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## How do I begin to write an article or blog? (continued)

- Identify your audience
  - Who are they and what do they want to know?
  - Match the tone and approach you use to the audience
  - Find an article or blog similar to the one you want to write
    - Tone
    - Audience

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## The writing process

- Set aside time to write daily
- Ask a colleague to give you feedback
- Make time to research your idea
- Attend conferences, and read to learn about trends in the field
- Develop a support network
  - Colleagues to give feedback
  - Writers' workshops
  - Local writers' organizations
  - Connect with others using social media

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## How do I select the right publisher for my article or blog post?

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## Writing guidelines

- Before submitting
  - Familiarize yourself with the publisher's guidelines
  - Know the publisher's focus, the gaps in that publisher's content, how your article will fill the gap or fit with that publication

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## What publishers want to know

- Briefly describe your topic: the "Pitch"
- Why is there a need for this article or blog post (why will people read this)?
- What else has been written on the topic and how is your approach different or complementary?
- Why are you qualified to write this?
- Do you have a personal story or something unique to add?

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## What should I include in my submission?

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## Exchange Submission guidelines

- 1200-1800 words
- High-resolution images, if applicable
- Author bio and headshot
- References/Resources
- submission@childcareexchange.com

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## Submission guidelines: Young Children

- <http://www.naeyc.org/writeYC>
- peer-reviewed
- reflects current knowledge base/research
- provide **practical strategies** for teachers
- developmentally appropriate practice

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## Submission guidelines: Young Children

- Brief articles, personal stories, viewpoints and opinion pieces: 500-1500 word limit
- General and cluster articles: 1000-3000 word limit

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## Submission guidelines: *Teaching Young Children*

- <http://www.naeyc.org/writeTYC>
- Primary audience is preschool teachers
- Easy to read ideas teachers can try
- Research- based
- Include photos!

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## Submission guidelines: *Teaching Young Children*

- <http://www.naeyc.org/writeTYC>
- **1. Tips:** - 300-500 words.  
[See 10X Good Job Alternatives.](#)
- **2. Articles:** 500-1200 words. See How  
[Process Art Supports Preschoolers.](#)

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## Submission guidelines: Families

- <http://www.naeyc.org/writeFamilies>
- Family audience
- 500 words - online content
- Focus on children's learning and development (not other parenting topics)

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## Submission guidelines: NAEYC Blog

- <http://www.naeyc.org/writeBlog>
- Educator audience
- 500-1000 words
- Timely topics, topics that connect to NAEYC initiatives, topics that promote discussion

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## Poll #3

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## What is the publisher's process for evaluating an article or blog post?

- Varies by publisher
  - Exchange process
  - NAEYC's process

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## What does the editorial process look like?

- NAEYC's process
- Exchange's process
- Exchange Writing Mentors
- Roles and responsibilities

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## What does the design and production process look like?

- NAEYC's process
- Exchange's process
- Roles and responsibilities

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## Helpful websites (continued)

- **General**
- How to Become an Author: Your Complete Guide by Jerry Jenkins: <https://www.jerryjenkins.com/how-to-become-an-author/>
- 10 Best Organizations for Writers: <http://www.everywritersresource.com/10-best-organizations-for-writers/>
- 10 Things I Wish I Knew about Being an Author that I Learned the Hard Way by Deborah Plummer: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/deborah-plummer/10-things-i-wish-i-knew-a\\_b\\_2904411.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/deborah-plummer/10-things-i-wish-i-knew-a_b_2904411.html)
- Major Writers Organizations from Writers and Editors: [http://www.writersandeditors.com/major\\_writers\\_organizations\\_57410.htm](http://www.writersandeditors.com/major_writers_organizations_57410.htm)
- Agents and Book Proposals from Writers and Editors: [http://www.writersandeditors.com/agents\\_and\\_book\\_proposals\\_57412.htm](http://www.writersandeditors.com/agents_and_book_proposals_57412.htm)
- Getting Published (Starting Out) from Writers and Editors: [http://www.writersandeditors.com/getting\\_published\\_starting\\_out\\_57653.htm](http://www.writersandeditors.com/getting_published_starting_out_57653.htm)

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Questions from the audience



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**naeyc**

National Association for the Education of Young Children

[www.ChildCareExchange.com](http://www.ChildCareExchange.com)  
**Exchange**  
The Early Childhood Journal Magazine Since 1978

**Thank you!**

Contact us if you have additional questions:

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[editorial@naeyc.org](mailto:editorial@naeyc.org)

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