**2023 Week of the Young Child**

**[NAME OF CITY/TOWN/REGION] Proclamation**

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* WHEREAS, All young children deserve quality early learning environments that support them as lifelong learners; and
* WHEREAS, Nurturing parenting and quality, accessible child care programs are essential to children’s development during the critical years from birth to age 5; and
* WHEREAS, Investments in babies and young children has profound impacts on building thriving, vibrant communities; and
* WHEREAS, First Things First, Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, and other community organizations, in conjunction with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), are celebrating the 52nd anniversary of the Week of the Young Child; and
* WHEREAS, These organizations are working to improve equitable early learning opportunities that provide a strong start for children in [CITY/TOWN/REGION]; and
* WHEREAS, Early childhood educators and child care providers make a difference in the lives of young children and deserve recognition and support; and
* WHEREAS, Public policies that support early care and learning for all young children help Arizona’s families, communities, and economy thrive.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, [NAME OF SIGNING OFFICIAL/GROUP], do hereby proclaim April 1-7, 2023 as the Week of the Young Child in [CITY/TOWN/REGION], Arizona and encourage all citizens to support and invest in early childhood education in our community.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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