

CITY OF PHOENIX



PROCLAMATION

The Week of the Young Child, established in 1971 by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, will celebrate its 55th anniversary in 2026, and continues to elevate early childhood as a public good, advance equity, and highlight the lasting impact of quality early childhood education.

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and recognized across our state by the Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children (AzAEYC), First Things First, and Southern Arizona AEYC. This week honors early learning, young children, their teachers, and families—underscoring the importance of quality early childhood opportunities that build lifelong learning skills and provide a strong start for children in Phoenix. The City of Phoenix Head Start Birth to Five Program provides comprehensive early childhood development and family support services to income-eligible families for children under 5 and at-risk pregnant women. Read On Phoenix, First Things First Phoenix North and Phoenix South Regional Partnership Councils, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children work in conjunction with local partners to support and enhance learning opportunities for Arizona's youth.

Phoenix recognizes that quality early childhood education is essential for the growth and potential of our youth, laying a solid foundation for future success. The City affirms the significance of policies and programs that support early childhood learning, which are not only vital for our youngest residents, but also for the prosperity of our city.

NOW, THEREFORE I, KATE GALLEG0, Mayor of the City of Phoenix, Arizona in accordance with the law, do hereby proclaim April 11-17, 2026, as

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

in the City of Phoenix and encourage all residents to recognize and support the critical role of early childhood education in building a strong community.



Mayor Kate Gallego
City of Phoenix