



## PROCLAMATION

*Week of the Young Child - April 11 - 17, 2026*

*Whereas, all of Arizona's children deserve access to high-quality early care and education environments that support healthy development and learning; and*

*Whereas, quality childcare and early learning programs help build children's lifelong learning skills during the critical years from birth to age five; and*

*Whereas, early childhood educators and childcare providers are an essential workforce that enables Arizona parents to participate in the workforce and pursue education; and*

*Whereas, investments in quality early care and education strengthen families, support local businesses, and contribute to thriving communities and a strong economy; and*

*Whereas, First Things First, the Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children, and other community partners, in conjunction with the National Association for the Education of Young Children, are celebrating the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Week of the Young Child™; and*

*Whereas, these organizations are working to expand equitable early childhood opportunities and ensure a strong start for children in Chino Valley; and*

*Whereas, public policies and community support that strengthen early care and education help Arizona's youngest learners, families, and communities thrive.*

*Now, Therefore, I, Tom Armstrong, Mayor of the Town of Chino Valley, do hereby proclaim April 11 - 17, 2026, as **the Week of the Young Child in Chino Valley, Arizona**, and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of early childhood and support the programs and professionals who help young children learn, grown, and succeed.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Chino Valley to be affixed this **16th** day of **March 2026**.*



Tom Armstrong, Mayor

ATTEST:   
Erin N. Deskins, Town Clerk