

# 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 (ECE) environments that support healthy development from birth to age five; and
- WHEREAS,** early childhood educators and childcare providers form a vital workforce that supports children's learning while enabling parents to work or attend school; and
- WHEREAS,** investing in quality childcare strengthens families, builds lifelong learning skills for children and contributes to thriving communities and a strong economy; 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, 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 promote public policies that help Arizona's youngest learners, families, and communities thrive in Apache Junction.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Walter "Chip" Wilson, Mayor of the City of Apache Junction, Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 11-17, 2026, as

## WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Signed and attested to this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

*Walter "Chip" Wilson*

Walter "Chip" Wilson  
Mayor

ATTEST:

*Evie McKinney*  
Evie McKinney  
City Clerk

