

First Things First supports early childhood programs in Arizona through grants to community organizations that provide services—at no cost—for young children from birth to age 5 (before kindergarten) and their families.

The Pinal Region includes Pinal County and the land belonging to the Ak-Chin Indian Community. It does not include lands belonging to the Gila River Indian Community, the Tohono O'odham Nation or the San Carlos Apache Tribe.



GET THIS INFO ONLINE:

[FirstThingsFirst.org / Find-Programs](https://www.FirstThingsFirst.org/Find-Programs)



## Parenting

There's no one right way to raise a child, and you don't have to be perfect. These programs are here to help you learn effective ways to support your child's healthy development and learning.

### Parenting Education

Attend a series of group classes proven to increase your understanding of child development and improve your parenting skills.

**Strengthening Families Program**  
**University of Arizona Cooperative Extension,**  
**Pinal County**  
(520) 836-4651 | [wecare@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:wecare@cals.arizona.edu)

**Fun Van**  
**Apache Junction Public Library**  
(480) 474-8559 | [funvan@ajcity.net](mailto:funvan@ajcity.net)

### Home Visiting Programs

Work 1-on-1 with a trained and caring parent educator, in the convenience of your own home, to build on the parenting skills you already have and nurture your child's health, development and learning.

**Healthy Families and Parents as Teachers**  
Denise Huddleston | (480) 245-9379  
[dhuddleston@cfraz.org](mailto:dhuddleston@cfraz.org)

### Family Friend and Neighbor Caregivers

Many children spend parts of the day with non-parent caregivers in informal home settings. Learn how you can better support the health, development and learning of the young children in your care through health and safety practices, educational activities and understanding more about child development.

**Family, Friend, Neighbor Caregivers Outreach Assistance Project**  
**United Way of Pinal County**  
(520) 836-0736 x 13 | [ffn@unitedwayofpc.org](mailto:ffn@unitedwayofpc.org)



## Child Health and Development

All children develop differently, but it helps to know if they're meeting typical milestones or could use extra assistance, and many medical and dental problems can be prevented.

### Developmental and Sensory Screening

Have your child checked for vision, hearing or developmental concerns (including communication, social-emotional, problem-solving and motor skills) and, if needed, get a referral for further evaluation or support.

**Developmental and Sensory Screening**  
**University of Arizona Cooperative Extension,**  
**Pinal County**  
(520) 836-4651 | [wecare@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:wecare@cals.arizona.edu)

## Dental/Oral Health

Prevent tooth decay by having a professional check your child's teeth (or yours, if you're pregnant), protect your child's teeth with fluoride, and get a referral to a dentist if you need one.

**First Smiles**  
**University of Arizona Cooperative Extension,**  
**Pinal County**  
(520) 836-4651 | [wecare@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:wecare@cals.arizona.edu)



## Quality Child Care and Preschool

Quality early learning programs help young children learn, grow and thrive. More than 1,000 child care centers, homes and preschool programs in Arizona participate in Quality First to improve the quality of early learning for kids from birth to age 5. Many offer Quality First Scholarships to help low-income families afford quality early care and education.



Learn more and find programs near you at: [QualityFirstAZ.com](http://QualityFirstAZ.com)



## Birth to Five Helpline

A free service available to all Arizona families with young children, (as well as parents-to-be), who have questions about their baby, toddler or preschooler. Ask experts about your child's feeding, sleep, behavior or any other concern. The Birth to Five Helpline is here to help.



**Southwest Human Development**  
1-877-705-KIDS (5437)  
[birthtofivehelpline.org](http://birthtofivehelpline.org)

## LEARN MORE

For more information about how First Things First supports the healthy development and learning of young children in our community, visit us at [FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/Pinal](http://FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/Pinal) or call **520.836.5838**.

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*Space may be limited and eligibility requirements may apply. While this listing only includes programs funded by First Things First, many of them can connect you with additional services that might be right for you.*

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, First Things First (FTF) will not discriminate on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. Qualified individuals with disabilities may request auxiliary aids and services to make information and communications accessible as well as request reasonable modifications to policies and programs so that they can participate equally in FTF's services, programs and activities. For assistance, contact FTF at (602) 771-5057. This document was last modified on 08/17/2022.*