

# Proclamation Template

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Empowering communities to help children build lasting connections with the natural world

Make a statement in your community by asking local leaders to recognize the importance of connecting children with nature with a formal proclamation. Our template makes it easy and you can customize the language as needed:

WHEREAS, when children spend regular time in nature it improves their health and well-being, inspires collaboration and reduces stress, supports creativity and whole-child development, and creates feelings of empathy for nature; and

WHEREAS, natural outdoor classrooms support wonder, curiosity, connections, critical thinking, collaboration, self-regulation, visual-spatial processing, fine motor skills, inquiry, early science exploration, self-expression, language, literacy foundations, observation, experimentation for early math and engineering skills; and

WHEREAS, natural outdoor classrooms rejuvenate adults, which in turn supports children's joy, wonder, and discovery outdoors; and

WHEREAS, access to natural outdoor learning environments is an important part of keeping Nebraska a great place to raise a family and nurture the next generation of environmental stewards; and

WHEREAS, more than [number of] programs and organizations across [Municipality/City/County] have certified their outdoor classrooms and are part of a network of more than 650 Certified Nature Explore Classrooms globally dedicated to creating and sustaining beautiful, sensory-rich, nature-filled outdoor classrooms and committing to ongoing professional development and increased family involvement; and

WHEREAS, on [April 27th through May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026], community organizations, educators, and families from across [Municipality/City/County] will come together in support of Nature for Children Week to uplift and promote climate resiliency and strong connections with nature by raising awareness, increasing community engagement, and promoting action so that young children can have daily access to nature-rich outdoor learning spaces every day.



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NOW, THEREFORE, I, [Municipality/City/County Official], DO HEREBY PROCLAIM [April 27th through May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026], as

**Nature for Children Week**

in [Municipality/City/County], and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of [Municipality/City/County] to be herein affixed.