



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Overview of the Timeline of Quality First in Arizona

1980's-

National movement through NAEYC to look at quality and early childhood education

Individuals in Arizona took an interest and "watched" the movement grow

Centers went through the process of self- study

1990's-

Arizona extended its interest on the focus on quality

Early Childhood Block Grant was awarded; a focus on quality was added to assure that the centers that received funding had an accreditation

2000's-

Janet Napolitano was elected governor

School Readiness Board was begun and studied the results of quality in early childhood (again with no resources/funding)

Governor Napolitano developed an interest in defining quality and tying quality to DES funding

The framework of a quality rating system was developed in the Governor's office (without additional resources/funding)

United Way in southern Arizona received an Early Learning Opportunity Grant

They developed a pilot program for the state about the focus on quality

First Things First was passed

Arizona transitioned from the School Readiness Board to the Early Childhood Development and Health Board/FTF

FTF received resources/began to staff up

2008-2009 continued to grow and partner with organizations to develop/implement Quality First

Catherine Kirk; Monday, May 21, 2012

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