



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

## NATIONAL PLAY THERAPY WEEK

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, while adults may use words to communicate, children often rely on play to convey thoughts and feelings that might otherwise not be expressed; and

**WHEREAS**, play therapy is a form of therapy used to help primarily young children express their thoughts and feelings in a safe environment through play; play therapists use the therapeutic powers of play to help clients prevent or resolve psychosocial difficulties; and

**WHEREAS**, play therapists are licensed mental health professionals who have earned graduate degrees in the field of mental health, and who, through specialized training and education, may have received specific credentials to become registered play therapists; and

**WHEREAS**, play therapists may also include marriage and family therapists, psychiatric nurses, psychologists, clinical social workers, and school counselors; and

**WHEREAS**, through play therapy, these mental health professionals help children describe and manage their behaviors and mental health; and

**WHEREAS**, the fundamentals of play therapy can help parents, caregivers, and teachers focus on ways to further the personal and social growth of children, and ensure that they have the opportunity to achieve their full potential;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 2 – 8, 2020, as “**NATIONAL PLAY THERAPY WEEK**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fourth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.