

A checklist for choosing a quality child care program.



Research is now available that can help parents make a better child care choice for their children. When you visit a child care program, find out the answers to the questions below.

Use this checklist as a guide in comparing programs. If you can answer **yes** to most or all of these questions, then your child will have a greater chance of having a successful child care experience.

Family Child Care Home Checklist

- yes* *no* Does the family child care home meet higher than minimal standards by having a 3 to 5-star rated license or a national accreditation through the National Association of Family Child Care?
- yes* *no* Is the family child care provider sensitive and responsive to the needs of each child enrolled?
- yes* *no* Does the family child care provider regularly participate in training opportunities, CPR and First Aid?
- yes* *no* Does the family child care provider see himself/herself as a child care professional?
- yes* *no* Does the family child care provider have planned activities for the children?
- yes* *no* Does the family child care provider have written policies and procedures for parents?
- yes* *no* Does the family child care provider have a credential or degree in early childhood education, child development, or a related field?
- yes* *no* Are parents always welcome in the home?
- yes* *no* Does the family child care provider participate in a family child care association or other professional association?
- yes* *no* Are there lots of materials and activities, such as blocks, puzzles and art supplies available for the children to explore all day long?
- yes* *no* Does the family child care provider have lots of experience and references from families who have used his/her service?



Child Care Services Association is always here to help! As you search for quality child care, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, or if you would like assistance finding a child care program that meets your family's needs.

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Our easy-to-use web site offers a wealth of information:

www.childcareservices.org