

Evaluating a Child Care Provider : a checklist

The following points are good ways to measure the quality of a child care center or provider. “Yes” answers indicate a quality environment, “no” answers indicate room for improvement.

The Caregivers/Teachers:

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Seem to really like children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Get down on each child’s level to speak to him/her. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Greet children when they arrive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Meet children’s needs quickly, even when things are busy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are trained in CPR, first aid and early childhood education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are involved in Continuing Education Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Keep up with children’s changing interests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tell you what your child is doing everyday |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Welcome your involvement and ideas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | and Children enjoy being together |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There are enough to serve all children present (ask Connect about the best staff/child ratios for different age groups) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are trained and experienced |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Participate in Early Childhood Development classes |

Setting

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The atmosphere is bright and pleasant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is a fenced outdoor play area with a variety of safe equipment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The teachers/caregivers can see the entire playground at all times |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There are different areas for resting, quiet and active play. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is enough space for the children in each of these areas. |

Activities

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is a daily balance of play time, story time, activity time and quiet time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The activities are appropriate for the ages of the children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There are enough toys and learning materials for the number of children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The toys are clean, safe and within reach of the children |

In General

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | You agree with the discipline practices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | You hear the sounds of happy children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Children are comforted when needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The program is licensed or regulated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Surprise visits by parents are encouraged |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Your child will be happy there. |