

# **CHECKLIST FOR FAMILIES** SEARCHING FOR CHILD CARE

Searching for high-quality child care for your child? Use the following checklist as a guide.

#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

- □ The hours suit my schedule
- □ The fees fit my price range
- Meals and snacks are appetizing
- □ Transportation is available
- The group size and age grouping meet child care regulations

#### THE ENVIRONMENT

- □ The setting is clean and cheerful
- Children seem happy
- Children are comforted when needed
- □ There is a safety plan to follow in emergencies
- Safety precautions are established
- Different kinds of space are available for quiet play, active play and outdoor play
- There is enough space for all activities
- □ There are enough books, paints, blocks, musical toys, games and puzzles, etc.

# THE STAFF

- They have been trained to care for children
- Most staff have been in the program for at least one year
- Disciplinary methods are acceptable
- They are warm and friendly
- Staff members take time to discuss a child's progress with parents regularly
- Staff members are attentive to children in the classroom



# PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

- Parents can visit unannounced
- Parents are involved in decision making
- There are opportunities for parents to be involved with the program
- Parents have a chance to speak with staff when they drop off and pick up children

# **FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- References are provided
- People who have used this service speak well of it
- The program is in good standing with child care regulations
- I would be happy here if I were a child
- □ I feel comfortable leaving my child here

#### Contact us for additional support with your child care search.

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