

Child Care Center Checklist

OBSERVATIONS: Use this page to make notes about what you can and should be able to see as you tour the center.

CENTER STAFF:

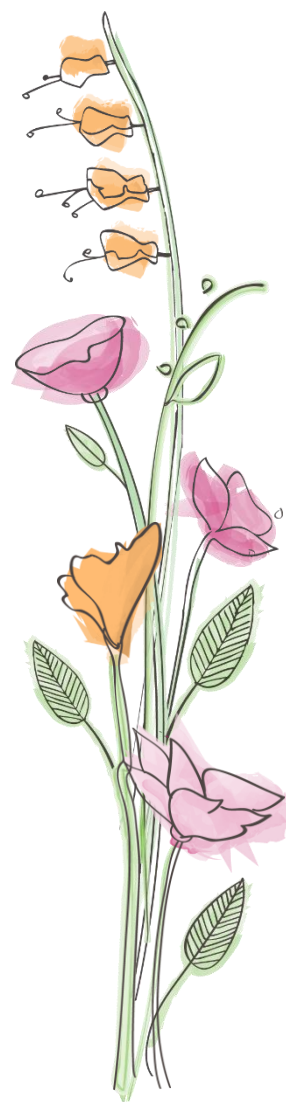
- Do teachers interact with children in caring, respectful, and positive ways? Do you see one-to-one conversation with eye contact?
- Do teachers challenge all skill levels at the same time?

CURRICULUM & ENVIRONMENT:

- Are children happy and engaged in interesting and diverse activities?
- Are there defined areas of learning in the classrooms for math, language, and science experiences? Are those areas labeled with both words and pictures?
- Are there displays of what the children are doing and learning?
- Are there a variety of materials and toys – including natural and everyday home materials – for children to explore?
- Are indoor and outdoor environments child-sized and designed for children of all developmental abilities and needs?

OTHER:

- Can all environments be easily supervised?



QUESTIONS: Use this page as a guide while talking to the director or other child care staff.

HEALTH & SAFETY:

- What is your illness policy?
- Is the center professionally cleaned daily?
- How is the spread of germs prevented?
- What are the emergency and evacuation procedures?
- Do teachers have CPR and First Aid training?
- What is the teacher-to-child ratio?
- What snacks are provided throughout the day? Is there a menu?
- How are food allergies handled?

CENTER STAFF:

- Will our child have a consistent group of primary teachers?
- How will my child's individual needs be met with the number of children in the room?

PROGRAM & COMMUNICATION:

- Is there an open door policy?
- What are the center's hours of operation and holiday schedule?
- What is the program's approach to discipline?
- Will I receive daily communication about my child's day?
- Are there enrichment experiences such as storytellers, musicians, or field trips?
- Are there opportunities for parents to meet together and be involved as a group?
- What resources are offered to parents?
- Is there a process for preparing parents and children for their first days at the center?
- Are parent-teacher conferences held to discuss my child's development?