

Child Care Checklist



When searching for a compatible caregiver for your child, leave no stone unturned. Refer to this checklist when visiting child care centers and interviewing other child care providers to help you ask all the right questions about all the critical issues.

Approach

- Treats child with respect
- Gets on the child's level physically when speaking to her
- Speaks and listens with respect
- Accepts child's feelings and differences
- Encourages exploration while setting appropriate limits
- Provides every child with his or her own place for sleeping and storing belongings
- Incorporates families through regular communication and involvement in the program

Safety

- Keeps all equipment in good condition
- Removes potential hazards from reach: cleaning supplies, sharp objects, medications, etc.
- Provides a clean and comfortable environment
- Encourages and models good hygiene — hand washing, etc.

Appropriateness

- Provides age-appropriate equipment and activities
- Provides age-appropriate and culturally appropriate toys
- Sets appropriate limits
- Helps children learn how to interact with each other
- Helps children learn how to take care of themselves

Background

- Has training in child development, first aid and CPR
- Has had criminal background check
- Has valid and current child care license, if applicable
- Has experience caring for young children
- Has supervision as well as education and training
- Understands and respects different parenting styles

Notes and other observations

Born LearningSM is a public engagement campaign helping parents, caregivers and communities create early learning opportunities for young children. Designed to support you in your critical role as a child's first teacher, Born Learning educational materials are made available through the efforts of United Way, United Way Success By 6 and Civitas. For more information, visit us online at www.bornlearning.org.



Civitas thanks **Parents as Teachers**, an international early childhood parent education and family support program, for their ongoing support. This Civitas tool was adapted for the Born Learning campaign. © 2006 Civitas

For local resources and information about early childhood education or programs call United Way First Call For Help at 1-866-733-3748 or log on to www.uwayscc.org.