



## Choosing Child Care Checklist

Things to Consider for All Children	Program #1 Name:	Program #2 Name:	Program #3 Name:
The cost is affordable.			
The setting is safe and clean.			
There are different areas for rest, quiet play, and active play.			
There are a variety of activities available to the children.			
There is a daily balance of story time, activity time, nap time, and play time.			
The teachers and caregivers get yearly training.			
The teachers and caregivers are friendly and supportive.			
The experience and education of the teachers are appropriate.			
The teachers and caregivers interact with the children on the child's level.			
My child will receive individual attention.			
My child will be able to develop a variety of skills.			
The program allows me to visit at any time.			
Families can participate in the program's activities.			
The caregivers share information with parents about daily activities and routines.			
I will feel comfortable leaving my child at this child care program.			
The procedures for dropping off and picking up my child are explained and clear.			
The procedures if my child becomes sick are clear.			



## Choosing Child Care Checklist

Additional Things to Consider for Infants	Program #1 Name:	Program #2 Name:	Program #3 Name:
The staff have had training related to safe sleep practices and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).			
Infants are laid to sleep on their backs in a safe area away from loose bedding or toys.			
Daily notes track my infant's feedings, diaper changes, and naps.			

Additional Things to Consider for School-age Children	Program #1 Name:	Program #2 Name:	Program #3 Name:
There are plenty of reading materials and educational games that the children can use.			
There is transportation to and from school.			
There is an adult supervising the children at all times.			
Care is available during vacations or any other days school is not in session.			

Your Own Questions	Program #1 Name:	Program #2 Name:	Program #3 Name:
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			

### References for Child Care Programs

Program #1 Business Name:	Name: _____ Phone: _____	Name: _____ Phone: _____	Name: _____ Phone: _____
Program #2 Business Name:	Name: _____ Phone: _____	Name: _____ Phone: _____	Name: _____ Phone: _____
Program #3 Business Name:	Name: _____ Phone: _____	Name: _____ Phone: _____	Name: _____ Phone: _____

Child Care Aware® of Missouri does not recommend any one program over another. This checklist is a tool to assist families making an informed child care choice. The list does not include all indicators of a quality child care program. We encourage families to visit their Section for Child Care Regulation office to view program licensing files. To find an office visit <http://health.mo.gov/safety/childcare/offices.php>. You can also view a program's licensing inspection reports online at: <https://webapp01.dhss.mo.gov/childcaresearch/searchengine.aspx>