



Steps to Choosing a Quality Child Care

Choosing a quality childcare facility is one of the biggest decisions you will make for your child because research has shown that the first five years of your child's life is when 90% of brain development happens. Now is the time to do your research.

Questions for your visit / Things to consider:

1. Staff Qualifications: What training and education have the teachers completed? Do the teachers participate in continued learning and advancement?
2. Curriculum: Find out how the children will be learning. It is important to understand that the children are still young and that learning happens through play. Strict structure can stifle some children's development. In the early years learning needs to be fun.
3. Staff to child ratio: How many children are there for each staff member. You want your child to get plenty of attention. Infants need a staff to child ratio of no more than 1:4 (one staff member for four infants).
4. Class size: Find out how many children are in the class. The smaller the class size the better. Picture a class size of 16 infants with 4 teachers, compared to a class size of 8 infants with 2 teachers. Both classes have the same teacher to child ratio. Which environment would be calmer, safer, and feel more like family?
5. Turnover: Find out how long the teachers have been at the center. Turnover is typically high in this industry, but having the same teacher for at least a year is best for your child.
6. Accreditation: Find out if the center has been accredited by an approved accrediting agency. Centers that are accredited have met voluntary quality standards that are higher than most state licensing standards. A few of the most prominent are Accredited Professional Preschool Learning Environment (APPLE), The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and The National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC).
7. Miscellaneous questions:
 - a. What extra curricular activities are at the school?
 - b. Schools philosophy on learning?
 - c. What services are provided?
 - d. What is the schools discipline policy?
 - e. What is the Staff's CPR/First Aid Certified ratio (How many are certified)?

Academy of Little Learners
1260 Hyacinth Pl, Wellington, FL 33414
(561) 795-3931