

# What does quality child care look like?

The ways in which a child care provider interacts with young children indicate the quality of care they can give. Look for a provider who:

- Shows love and respect for the children in their care.
- Is the facility safe, comfortable and clean?

Is the provider responsive to the child's needs?

- Talks and reads with children every day
- Are materials easily available to children? Are they appropriate to the different developmental levels of the children?
- Do the children seem happy, secure, and stimulated?
- Are there scheduled times for free play, structured activities, meals, quiet time, naps, and outdoor play?
- Discipline should be positive, clear, consistent, fair and should never include physical punishment.

## **Resources**

The Resource Connection Child Care Resource & Referral 8085 Hwy 26 Suite G. Mokelumne Hill 95245 (209) 754-1075 (877) 944-9911 rr.trcac.org

Amador County Office of Education (209) 223-1733

Calaveras County Office of Education (209) 736-4662

California Department of Education, Education & Support Division (916) 322-6233

California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division Child Care Advocate Program (916) 654-1541

First 5 Amador County (209) 257-1092

First 5 Calaveras County (209) 754-6914



## AMADOR | CALAVERAS COUNTY

## The Resource Connection

**Child Care Resource & Referral** 



## Choosing Quality Child Care

rr.trcac.org | (209) 754-1075 (877) 944-9911

The Resource Connection Engaging Families - Empowering Communities - Enriching Lives

## Types of Child Care settings

#### Licensed-Exempt Child Care

- A license-exempt provider does not meet the state's licensing requirements.
- Hours of operation are usually flexible.
- Providers include relatives (grandparents, aunts, uncles), other relatives, friends & neighbors.
- Providers can register with TrustLine.

### Licensed Family Child Care Home (FCCH)

- Licensed and regulated by the State of California.
- Large- cares for up to 14 children and requires an assistant.
- Small- cares for up to 8 children.
- Home setting for children of mixed ages.
- Often flexible schedule including evening, weekend or overnight care.

#### **Child Care Center**

- Licensed and regulated by the State of California
- Care Is provided in non-home facilities.
- Staff have Early Childhood Education college units.



## **5** Steps to Finding Care

## Step 1: Be Informed

- Contact your local Resource & Referral agency to learn about your options for child care.
- Contact Community Care licensing to gather information about any substantiated or inconclusive complaints about a child care provider you select. (844) 538-8267

### Step 2: Interview Care Providers

- Ask questions about children's care, discipline, and activities.
- What is their experience and/ or education in child care and child development?
- What is the provider's fee, and what does it include?
- Do they have a contract?
- If applicable, do they take child care subsidy payments?

## Step 3: Visit and Observe

- Is the facility safe, clean, and comfortable?
- Is there a quiet place for naps?
- How do the children interact with each other?
- Is there the correct number of children per adult? (Small 8 to 1) (Large 14 to 2)
- Are you comfortable with the child-to-adult ratio?
- Listen to the noise level of the room. Joyful noise from the children, respectful attitude towards the kids.

## Step 4: Check

• At least two references; ask what they think of the provider and the care their child is receiving.

## Step 5: Choose

• The right child care provider for your child and family. Stay involved; respectfully communicate with your provider if you have any concerns.

# Do you need help paying for child care? Call (209) 754-1075

#### State/ Federal Funded Programs Alternative Payment, CalWORKS Stages 1, 2 & 3

- Services offered: Vary
- Who Qualifies: Children in families with income below 85% of State Median Income (SMI) guidelines or currently receiving or recently received cash aid assistance
- Requirements: Depending on the program that the family is eligible for the required need may vary.

#### State & Federal Funded Programs Early Head Start/ Head Start/ CSPP

- Amador California State Preschool Program. (209) 283-0844
- Calaveras California State Preschool Program Growing Together- (209) 754-2318
  Building Bridges- (209) 736-6014
- Amador Early/Head Start (209)- 223-7333
- Calaveras Early/ Head Start (209) 754-2000

