

5 Steps to Choosing Child Care



**Need child care for your child?
Not sure what to look for?
Follow these five steps
and you'll be on your way.**

1. LOOK around. Visit several child care homes or centers. Are toys and books within the children's reach? Do the caregivers enjoy talking and playing with children both inside and outside? Are infants able to explore safely? Is time spent talking, reading and writing with children, rather than watching too much TV?

✓ *These things help your child learn and grow.*

2. ASK questions. Find out about the caregivers' child care experience and beliefs. How long have they been caring for children? What special child care training have they received? Do you agree on how to handle discipline issues? What would a typical day be like for the children? Is the home or center licensed or accredited? How do they help make a connection between home and child care? How will they respond to the special needs of your child?

✓ *As a parent, you know what is best for your child.*