

## SELECTING A PRESCHOOL OR CHILD CARE FOR YOUR CHILD

Name of Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Observation: \_\_\_\_\_

Choosing a preschool for your child can be a confusing task. These statements may help as guidelines in selecting a program.

Identify the items on the following checklist which are important to you. As you visit different programs, determine how each program measures up. You may check each item that occurs. Add up the total number of check marks for each program. The program with the highest totals will provide the best program for your child.

**Services Provided**

**Program**

- \_\_\_\_\_ You feel the atmosphere is relaxed and accepting of children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A written statement on behavior management is given to parents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ You can enroll your child at a convenient time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The length of the day is appropriate for your child.
- \_\_\_\_\_ There is a daily schedule with a good balance of structured activities and free play.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The age range of the children in the program suits your needs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fees are acceptable for me.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Financial aid is available if I need it.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Toilet training is provided.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Snacks and/or meals are provided.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Integration into a regular pre-school program is available.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation.

**Parent Participation**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Parent participation in classroom activities is encouraged.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parent participation in classroom activities is required.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled regularly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The staff communicates to parents through daily or weekly notes or verbally each day.

**Staff**

- \_\_\_\_\_ There are enough adults to guide and supervise the number of children and faculty.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The adults responsible for the program are certified teachers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ You feel the staff creates a warm and comfortable environment for the children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ You feel the staff communicates well with children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The staff encourages independence in self-help skills (eating, dressing, etc.)

**Facility**

- \_\_\_\_\_ The classroom is divided for play, work, and quiet times.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Space is provided in the classroom for bins for each child.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I feel there is adequate space provided for the number of the children in the program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ There is an outdoor play area that is suitable for my child.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Restrooms are accessible to children (clean area for diaper changes).

**Activities**

- \_\_\_\_\_ There is a variety of activities so that each child has a chance to be successful.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Activities that encourage language development and talking are included.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Learning is recognized as an active process. Children take part in activities and manipulate objects while learning.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Imaginative play is encouraged.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children have opportunities to look at books and listen to reading.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children participate in activities that require large muscle movement such as running and small muscle movements such as pasting and cutting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children are provided with experiences that stimulate all their senses: hearing, seeing, touching, tasting, and smelling.

**Materials**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Toys and safe materials are placed within children's reach.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Materials are appropriate for the age and skill range of the children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ There is a variety of safe play-ground equipment available.
- \_\_\_\_\_ There are enough materials for a variety of activities.

**Vocabulary**

Integration-Educating children with disabilities in a natural environment with their typical peers with the help of special teachers.

PITT Program-KUAP-2601 Gabriel, Parsons, KS 67357-(316)421-6550 ext 1859