



SCHUYLER COUNTY CHILD CARE COORDINATING COUNCIL

235 S. CATHARINE STREET, P.O. BOX 312
MONTOUR FALLS, NY 14865

Child Care Checklist

Child Care Services differ in size and style as much as families do. Think about your own style of child rearing. Consider what is most important to you. Careful and thorough preparation will save precious time.

Questions to ask all types of child care:

- How many children are in the program?
- What are the ages of the children?
- How many children are there per adult?
- May I contact a parent for references?
- Please describe a typical day?
- How will we communicate about my child and how often?
- Can I visit without calling first?
- How do you handle Medical Emergencies?
- How do you handle a child who is crying when they break the rules or take something from another child?
- Tell me about your experience and educational training?
- What are your staff requirements?
- Are you and/or your staff CPR and First Aid Certified?
- What precautions are taken when children are taken off site? Seatbelts, car seats and drivers?
- Who else is in your home during the day? How are they related and may I meet them?
- Why did you become a child care provider?
- Do you have pets?
- How much TV is watched per day and what is the content?
- Is smoking permitted in your home?

Things to look for when you visit:

- Is this facility cheerful, appealing and clean?
- Do care providers hug children when they need comfort?
- Do care providers pay individual attention to the children?
- Do they speak with children at eye level?
- Do they participate in play?
- Do they seem to enjoy children?
- Is there a variety of age appropriate toys and books and equipment?
- Do children seem happy, enthusiastic and relaxed?

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- Are children actively engaged in activity?
- Is there enough outdoor space and toys?

Questions to ask yourself:

- Am I comfortable with the care provider? Program? Facility?
- Do I trust this person to care for my child?
- Do the rules seem reasonable and clear?
- Am I happy with the type or variety and activities?
- Am I satisfied with the references?
- If I was a child would I enjoy spending time here?