

# Look & Listen

## Take the Time

### Caregivers/Teachers

- Do the caregivers/teachers seem to really like children?
- Do the caregivers/teachers get down to each child's level to speak to the child?
- Are children greeted when they arrive?
- Are children's needs met even when things get busy?
- Are the caregivers/teachers training in CPR, first aid and child development?
- Does the program keep up with children's changing interests?
- Will the caregivers/teachers answer your questions?
- Will the caregivers/teachers tell you what your child is doing every day?
- Are parents' ideas welcomed? Are there ways for you to get involved?
- Do the caregivers/teachers and children enjoy being together?
- Is there enough staff to serve the children? (Ask local experts about the best staff/child ratios for different age groups.)

### Setting

- Is the atmosphere bright and pleasant?
- Is there an outdoor play area with a variety of safe equipment?  
Can the caregiver/teachers see the entire playground at all times?
- Are there different areas for resting, quiet play and active play?  
Is there enough space for the children in all of these areas?

### Activities

- Is there a daily balance of play time, story time, activity time and nap time?
- Are there activities your child likes to do?
- Are there enough toys and learning materials for the number of children?
- Are toys clean, safe and within reach of the children?

### In general

- Do you agree with the discipline practices?
- Do you hear the sounds of happy children?
- Are children comforted when needed?
- Is the program licensed or regulated?
- Are surprise visits by parents welcomed?
- Will your child be happy here?**

The following points are good ways to measure the quality of a child care home or center. For more information contact the Child Care Resource Service at 333-3252 or 1-800-325-5516 (outside Champaign County).

# Look & Listen

## My Observations

### Caregivers/Teachers

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### Setting

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### Activities

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### In general

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