

# Visit! Visit! Visit!

- Visit the programs you are considering.
- Think about walking in your child's shoes.
- Schedule interviews with several providers.
- Use your checklist.
- Ask questions.
- Go with your feelings.
- Keep visiting the program you select.



# Need Help?

## Need help finding child care?

Contact us today - answer a few questions and you will receive a customized list of child care providers living near your home or place of work.

## Need help with the cost of child care?

- Wisconsin Shares is available to help pay child care costs for income-eligible families.
- Child care fees are tax deductible. Check with your employer about pre-tax options or contact us for more information.



**Supporting Families  
Together Association**

Phone: 1-888-713-KIDS

[www.SupportingFamiliesTogether.org](http://www.SupportingFamiliesTogether.org)

The logo for Supporting Families Together Association features a circular emblem with a map of Wisconsin in the background. Overlaid on the map are several stylized human figures in various colors (green, purple, blue, yellow) with their arms raised, symbolizing support and community. The text 'Supporting Families' is arched over the top of the emblem, and 'Together Association' is written below it.

*Wisconsin Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies provide referrals - not recommendations. We do not endorse any child care provider or center. All responsibility for selecting child care remains solely with the legal parent or guardian.*

*Brochure developed by:  
Western Dairyland Child Care Partnership  
Northwest Connection Family Resources*



# Walk in my Shoes

If your children could look for **QUALITY** child care, they would want to know...

# Who will Watch Me?

## My provider should be someone who:

- Will show me love by hugging, smiling, rocking, talking and singing.
- Knows and cares about my needs.
- Wants to learn more about teaching and caring for other children like me.
- Listens and thinks that I am special.

# What will I Do There?

## I will learn and have fun every day by:

- Reading stories
- Singing songs
- Playing games
- Painting pictures
- Building with blocks
- Wondering *why & how*
- Sifting sand
- Pouring water
- Cooking food
- Coloring
- Counting

# Where Am I Going?

## My child care should be a place where:

- I can learn by playing with toys, blocks, games, and with other children.
- I can crawl, walk, run, explore, and feel safe inside and out.
- I can have fun and be happy.
- My special needs will be met.

# for Parents

**Choosing quality child care matters** - it helps your child get off to the best possible start and paves the way for future success.

**Know the rules** - the brochure "Your Guide to Licensed Child Care" contains a summary of child care rules and is available for free on-line at [dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov).

**Background checks** are conducted on licensed and certified child care providers. If you choose an unregulated provider, consult [wcca.wicourts.gov](http://wcca.wicourts.gov) or contact us for assistance.

# Your Checklist

## The Provider

- Is loving and caring.
- Understands how children learn and grow.
- Has experience and education in working well with young children.
- Works well with others.
- Encourages you to visit and to get involved.
- Uses clearly written policies and procedures.

## The Place

- Is clean and safe inside and out.
- Has space for each child's belongings.
- Has toys & activities for each age group.
- Is regulated through the State, the County, or Tribe. Ask to see a certificate or license.
- Has the legal ratio of teachers to children.

## The Program

- Allows time for a child to play alone and with others.
- Plans both quiet time and active play - indoors and out.
- Encourages creative play.
- Uses friendly and positive words to guide a child.
- Plans time for play, learning activities, naps, and meals each day.