

# 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.



Central WI Early Education Resources  
**Childcaring, Inc.**

Website: [www.childcaring.org](http://www.childcaring.org)

Phone: 1-800-628-8534

**Supporting Families  
Together Association**

Phone: 1-888-713-KIDS

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



*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.

## 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 online 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.

## What will I Do There?

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

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

## ✓ 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.