

## CHOOSING THE BEST CHILD CARE

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### **Choose Quality Child Care and Stay Involved**

Choosing Quality child care is one of the most important decisions families make. Research shows that high quality child care and early education can boost children's learning and social skills when they enter school. But it is often difficult to decide which program is good enough. What should you look for?

### **To make a good decision**

*Visit and observe how RECE's and all staff respond and interact with the babies and children in their care*

- seek a RECE and/or Caregiver who **responds warmly and responsively to the child's needs**
- select staff who **demonstrate that they care about children**
- staff that are **eager to learn about the child's development**
- staff that **give children individual attention and engage them in creative play and exploration**

### **Where is the best Environment?**

- find the setting that is clean and safe
- make sure that there are enough caregivers so that your child is able to receive individual attention
- ask around for references/ask other parents

### **After choosing your Child Care**

- Stay involved
- Drop in unannounced occasionally so you can see what your child's world is like during the day
- Ask for frequent progress reports
- Don't be afraid to offer constructive suggestions to improve your child's experience

**Studies show that the children who achieve better in school have families who stay involved in their child care and education**