



School-age Care CHECKLIST

STAFF

- Staff have training in how children grow and learn and have experience working with school-age children.
- Staff to child ratios are maintained at all times. State ratios are the law. See 4C brochure for details. For higher quality programs, the National AfterSchool Association (NAA) recommends one adult caregiver for every 10 to 15 children, ages six and older, with no more than 30 children.
- Adults are positive role models for children.
- Staff are energetic and maintain a safe place, while being flexible and fun.

PROGRAM

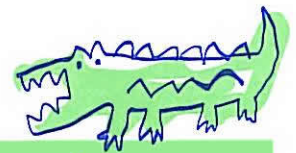
- Schedules and lesson plans are posted and show daily offered activities.
- Activities are balanced between activities led by staff and activities that are child-initiated.
- Teachers meet regularly to plan and evaluate the program.
- Children are well supervised.
- Public resources and services are used to enhance learning and the program.
- Children choose their own age-suitable activities and toys.
- Different toys and supplies are offered that promote learning, such as puzzles, books and games.
- Time for talking, reading, listening to music, homework, or alone play is offered.
- Activities are interesting, fun and challenging. Children learn by doing.
- Children work together on projects and games.
- Children are encouraged to solve problems.

ENVIRONMENT

- Outdoor play area is safe, both shaded and open, with room to run and climb.
- Group games and sports are offered that are age-suitable.
- Supplies and equipment for indoor and outdoor play have a variety of age-suitable choices.
- Toys, games and materials are plentiful so that children do not have to wait to use them.
- Activities include games, arts and crafts, sports and dramatic play for children of all ages.

MEALS

- Meals and snacks are well balanced, nutritious and low in fat, sugar and salt.
- Staff sit with children during mealtimes to promote language and social skills.
- Children serve themselves at snack and mealtime.
- Menus for meals and snacks are posted.



WARNING SIGNALS

- Program does not encourage parents to observe.
- Children move about for 30 minutes or more without interaction with staff or being involved in an activity.
- Staff spend most of their time scolding or controlling children.