

CENTER TOUR

Choosing an early learning center for your child is an important step in creating a strong foundation for your child's future. As you visit various centers, use this checklist to help you feel confident in selecting an environment that will best support your child's educational, safety and emotional needs.

CENTER NAME: _____

CENTER DIRECTOR: _____

SAFETY & SECURITY

- What security measures do you have in place?
- Do you conduct regular fire drills, weather-related drills, and intruder drills?
- How do you prevent the spread of germs?
- Is your staff first aid & CPR trained?
- Do you have separate playground equipment for various ages?
- May I visit my child during the day?

FOOD & NUTRITION

- What food and meals are included in tuition?
- Is your menu reviewed by a certified nutritionist?
- May I bring in substitutions?
- What if my child has an allergy?

ILLNESS

- At what point will my child be sent home for a fever?
- What are other health reasons my child may be sent home?
- What is your policy regarding administering medication?

TEACHERS

- What education background must your teachers have?
- What clearances do they have?
- How do you continue to support your teachers in their careers?
- What training do they receive?
- What are your teacher-to-student ratios?

COMMUNICATION

- How will I learn how my child's day went?
- Do you have resources to help me with parenting?
- How do you document my child's unique developmental milestones – both physical and educational?

TUITION & BILLING

- What's included in tuition? Does that include your fitness, Spanish and music programs?
- Do you have an annual enrollment fee?
- Do you accept online payments?
- Do you bill monthly or weekly?

TODDLER (AGES 1-2)

- What core concepts do you teach at age 1? Age 2?
- How do you support learning of language and literacy?
- Do you have a balance of teacher-led activities and child-led discovery?
- Do you use STEAM activities?
- How do you focus on my child's individual learning milestones in your lesson plans?
- How do you help my child understand emotions?
- How do you let children explore on their own and support their independence?
- When do you begin potty training? How do I have a say in that?
- How do you support gross motor activities when it's bad weather?
- What programming do you offer in the summer?

MY NOTES:

