



## AT YOUR VISIT: THINGS TO LOOK FOR

### POSITIVE, NURTURING TEACHER/CHILD INTERACTIONS

- Does the teacher make eye contact with the children, smile and listen without interrupting?
- Is the teacher at eye level with the kids when they are interacting?
- Is the teacher interacting with children during activity times indoors and outdoors?
- Do you hear the kids talking more than the teacher? Child voices should dominate.
- Does the teacher ask the children questions where they can give more than a yes/no answer?
- Are the children supervised at all times? Children should never be left alone and should always be within sight and sound of teachers.

### CARING FOR INFANTS

- Are babies placed on their backs to sleep?
- Do babies spend part of their play time on their tummies?
- Do caregivers respond promptly to crying babies?
- Are babies held while being fed?

### POSITIVE CHILD/CHILD INTERACTIONS

- Are kids playing either together or side-by-side?
- Are children encouraged to work together to resolve differences or conflicts?
- Do kids move freely from activity to activity?

### CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Is there ample space and materials to encourage play and learning within the children's reach, including:

- Books, books and more books
- Blocks and puzzles
- Pretend play area with puppets, costumes, etc.
- Art /writing materials and musical instruments
- Textured materials, such as sand and water
- Science materials, like plants, funnels, magnifying glasses, etc.

### OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

- Is there an outdoor play area, with shade, that is used daily?
- Are items from the classroom brought outdoors to be played with?
- Are the adults actively engaged with the kids at play?

## AFTER YOUR VISIT: QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD

Trust your instincts and also your child's reactions to the teachers and environment.

- Do you think you would like to go play there?
- What did you like best about the classroom?
- What did you like best about the teacher?

## NOTES

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