

## What Questions Do I Ask When I Visit

After you have made your calls, choose some programs which you would like to visit. Try to visit during child care hours. Watch the provider and the children and look at the home/center. Write your answers to the following questions below. You may want to have a copy of this sheet for each home/center you visit.

### **Does the child care provider:**

Talk warmly to the children and help them feel comfortable? \_\_\_\_\_

Listen and respond to the children? \_\_\_\_\_

Treat each child with equal respect? \_\_\_\_\_

Follow a daily schedule? \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule active, quiet and outdoor play? \_\_\_\_\_

Accept a child's mistakes without getting angry? \_\_\_\_\_

Limit television/video time? \_\_\_\_\_

Look like she/he enjoys being with children? \_\_\_\_\_

Set reasonable limits for behavior? \_\_\_\_\_

Have a sense of humor? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Can you see:**

Children enjoying themselves? \_\_\_\_\_

Toys and activities available for children to get? \_\_\_\_\_

Children and provider(s) cooperating? \_\_\_\_\_

A fun, safe place for children to explore and learn? \_\_\_\_\_

Children who appear successful and pleased with themselves? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Look at the child care area:**

Does it look clean, safe and comfortable? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a suitable place for children to nap? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there enough furniture, toys and equipment for all the children? \_\_\_\_\_

Are the materials safe and in good shape? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the outdoor play area safe and well supervised? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there toys, dolls, books and games which represent different cultures? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Ask the provider:**

If you can visit at any time? \_\_\_\_\_

Are parent meetings/conferences held? How often? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the plan for an emergency? How will the provider reach you? \_\_\_\_\_

How are the children disciplined? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the provider take the child on field trips? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you see a copy of any written contract or policies used by the provider? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you give me names and phone numbers of people who have used your child care services? (references) **Call these people before deciding on a provider!**

Other Questions? \_\_\_\_\_