

MEAL TIMES

- ___ Babies held when fed from their bottles
- ___ Hands washed before meals
- ___ Well balanced and nutritious meals
- ___ Food never withheld as punishment

TOILET TRAINING

- ___ Schedule for toilet training set by parents
- ___ Diaper changing surface covered with a clean, disposable paper or disinfectant after each baby's diaper is changed

Other Options...

Child care centers take care of groups of children in non-residential settings. They are often open all day and all year. They offer children a place to play and learn away from home, with staff who are trained in child development.

School age programs take care of school-age children in elementary schools, community centers or existing child care centers. These programs usually cover the daytime hours when school is not in session: before and after school and sometimes, school vacations, holidays and snow days.

When thinking about different kinds of care, you will want to consider:

- the age and personality of your child
- the child care needs of other children in your family
- the location of your workplace, home and all child care facilities
- the hours your child will need care
- what you can afford to pay .

We Are Looking For Child Care Providers

If you love children, would like to work in your home and could use additional income, then **Child Care Connections** would like to hear from you. **Child Care Connections** will provide you with information on how to become a child care provider.

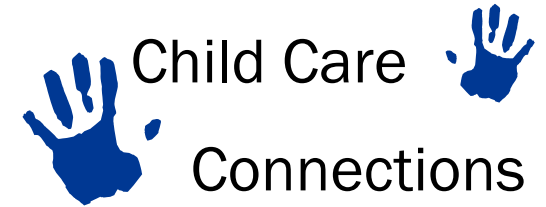
For more information on how to get started call:

(937)323-4211

Or

(800)915-0090

Child Care Connections is governed by the United Way of Clark, Champaign & Madison Counties Board of Trustees .



Your Link to Child Care



Clark County

(937)323-4211

Champaign & Logan Counties

(800)915-0090

How Does Child Care Connections Work?

A *phone call* will link parents to:

- Free referrals for families needing child care
- Information on how to choose child care
- Information on training opportunities for child care providers
- A provider newsletter

Child Care Connections conducts a preliminary interview and mails information. Parents may also conduct a *web-based* search at:

www.uwccmc.org/child-care-connection.html

Finding A Family Day Care Home

Children in a family day care home are cared for by one adult. In Ohio, a provider may care for no more than six children at any one time, including the provider's own children who are under the age of six. No more than three of the children can be under the age of two. Day care homes are NOT inspected or regulated in Ohio UNLESS the provider receives public funds, then the home must be CERTIFIED by the county Department of Job & Family Services.

It is very important that parents be able to recognize a safe and healthy environment.

CALL. Talk with several different providers. Make appointments to visit providers who sound promising.

VISIT. Visit at least two homes. Observe the caregiver with your child and other children. Ask about references and check them carefully.

The following are some characteristics of a good day care home. Place a checkmark for each "yes" answer.

PROVIDER

- Warm, kind and patient
- Respectful of children's cultural background
- Sensitive to each child's feelings and needs
- Laughs, talks and listens to children
- Comforts an angry, sad, or frightened child
- Reads, plays, and sings with the children
- Has reasonable expectations for children
- Has training or experience with young children

POLICIES

- Policy for accepting or excluding sick children
- No one in household convicted of child abuse or neglect
- Posted emergency numbers, including how to reach parents
- Plan for a substitute in case of an emergency
- Reports about your child's progress or problems
- Rules about who will provide diapers and formula

HOME ENVIRONMENT

- Limited TV watching
- Materials and equipment well maintained and clean
- Quiet and active areas, inside and out
- Stairways, windows and doorways protected by gates
- Place for each child's individual belongings
- Locked up cleaning supplies and other dangerous materials
- Covered electrical outlets
- Outdoor play space protected from traffic and other hazards
- Toys and activities on low shelves or tables
- Smoke alarms
- Fire extinguisher in the kitchen and other appropriate areas

ACTIVITIES

- Quiet and active play periods
- Safe places for a child to play alone
- Opportunities to play outside
- Babies out of their cribs when awake
- Infants & toddlers eat and sleep according to their schedules
- Infants protected from more active children when playing on the floor

