

Is your child care as great as your child?

Children need caregivers who:

- Are warm, welcoming, and pay attention to every child
- Use positive guidance techniques and do NOT yell, spank, or use other negative punishments
- Read to them every day and do not use TV
- Offer children freedom to explore
- Continue their child care training



Now that you have child care, even if it's with a friend or relative, you need to stay involved.

- Talk regularly to your CHILD about child care; ask questions and really listen to the details.
- Share information regularly with your caregiver.
- Make unannounced visits
- Occasionally ask yourself:
 - * Do you feel like your child is safe, happy, and treated with respect and affection?
 - * Do you feel like your caregiver is reliable, enjoys children, and is someone you can communicate with easily?
- Children tend to spread germs easily... does your caregiver wash their hands frequently and encourage your child to wash their hands?
- Regularly check to see if your caregiver has any violations: www.ChildCareWestchester.org go to For Parents... Evaluating Programs



If you see any of the following, don't leave your child in care:

- No toys, books, materials
- Safety hazards
- A caregiver under the influence
- A caregiver yelling at children

Unfortunately, even after years with the same caregiver, problems can occur.

- A problem may exist if your child suddenly seems unhappy, is not eating or sleeping well, or loses enthusiasm for playing with you, other children or his/her toys
- Be prepared to take the appropriate actions.
- Issues involving business, personal or programmatic complaints can often be resolved through discussion. Talk with your caregiver when issues arise. Call the Council for advice in preparing for the meeting.

Contact us for FREE child care referrals and resources!

Search for child care 24/7 at

www.ChildCareWestchester.org

Call a trained child care specialist at

914-761-3456, x140

ext 122 for financial assistance.

Remember...

- All care provided outside the child's home which involves more than two children for more than three hours each day, must be regulated by the State of New York.
- Regulations set a basic minimum standard required by law, but may not meet your personal expectation for quality.