



Steps TO FINDING CARE

Steps to Finding Quality Care for your Child

Your child's early years are very important. That is why, as a parent, you must demand the best care for them. Choosing child care for your young child should be a positive experience for your family. Always remember that you are buying a service to meet both your needs as a busy parent and the developmental needs of your child.

Below is a quick outline of the process you should use to find quality care for your child. Each step is thoroughly covered in the remainder of this guide book. It will be important for you to use this book as you visit child care settings. Remember, choosing child care is an investment in your child's future.

Educate



- Be an educated consumer. Read this guide book and other resources to determine all available child care options.

Contact



- Contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency to discuss options, answer questions, and obtain a list of potential providers.

Interview



- Interview providers over the phone and narrow your list to 3-5 providers. (see page 8)

Visit



- Visit each facility or home. Meet with the provider or center director and tour the facilities. Use the checklists on pages 9-10.

Investigate



- To make an informed decision, you are encouraged to call the Division of Child Care and obtain/review provider files or review them online. (see page 6)

Enroll



- Enroll your child in the early learning program you have chosen.