Choosing Child Care

A Check List:

1. Learn about the Services and Policies
   - Determine the services provided.
   - Ask to see the license.
   - Review the parent handbook and contract.

2. Observe the Program and Ask Questions
   - Check for a safe and nurturing environment.
   - Count the number of children/adults.
   - Meet the caregiver(s) who will be with your child.
   - Imagine your child in the environment.
   - Observe the children.

3. Make Your Decision
   - Ask for references.
   - Check the licensing complaint history.
     Call Community Care Licensing at (408) 324-2148 for information about licensed family child care homes and licensed child care centers.
   - Consider your instincts.

4. Evaluate and Re-evaluate
   - After enrolling your child, continue to evaluate your decision.
   - Call the CDRC Child Care Switchboard for further assistance.
   - Evaluate after your child has been in a program 4–8 weeks.

Child Development Resource Center Child Care Switchboard at 466-5820 or 724-2997, ext. 210
www.cdrc4info.org