

## Choosing Child Care

### Questions about the site and the child care provider's qualifications:

How long have you been providing child care? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your background? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you completed any early childhood development classes? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you certified in infant and child CPR? \_\_\_\_\_ When was your last certification? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have first aid training? \_\_\_\_\_ When was your last certification? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there adequate space for playing and sleeping? \_\_\_\_\_

Are the toys clean and in good condition? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a current state license or registration? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you give me the names of 3 or 4 families I could contact for a reference? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Questions about the site works:

How many children do you care for? \_\_\_\_\_ What are their ages? \_\_\_\_\_

Do others ever help you provide care? \_\_\_\_\_

What are their qualifications? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you let the older children help take care of the babies? \_\_\_\_\_

What is a typical day for children? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you do with a baby when the older children are playing outside? \_\_\_\_\_

How much television do you let the children watch? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your discipline policy? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your policy if my baby becomes ill? \_\_\_\_\_

If my child misses a day, do I still have to pay? \_\_\_\_\_

What happens if you get sick? \_\_\_\_\_

What days off do you take? \_\_\_\_\_

How much notice will I get regarding your vacation? \_\_\_\_\_

How much do you charge for providing care for an infant? \_\_\_\_\_

**(over)**

### Questions about health and safety:

Do you smoke? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there working smoke detectors? \_\_\_\_\_ Is there a fire escape plan? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you keep firearms in your house? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, are they locked? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you always put babies to sleep on their backs? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you wash your hands? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the diapering area away from the food and play areas? \_\_\_\_\_

How is the diaper changing area cleaned? \_\_\_\_\_

What food is provided? How is it prepared? \_\_\_\_\_

Are food and medicine properly stored and refrigerated? \_\_\_\_\_

Are toxic cleaning supplies and other dangers locked away? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there covers on all electrical outlets? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the place baby-proofed (security gates, window guards, door latches)? \_\_\_\_\_

Are the first aid kit and emergency numbers easy to find? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a fenced-in outdoor play area with safe equipment? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you clean the toys? \_\_\_\_\_

Are sick children allowed? \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions about the child care provider's attitudes:

Why are you working as a child care provider? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What are your feelings about my breastfeeding after I return to work? \_\_\_\_\_

How will you help me continue to breastfeed? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Then ask yourself:

Is the child care provider someone I could easily talk to and confide in? \_\_\_\_\_

Does this person make me feel comfortable? \_\_\_\_\_

Does this person share my values? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this person someone my baby would like? \_\_\_\_\_