

Seven Elements of Quality

1



Clean and safe environment with teachers checking in with parents often

2

Keystone STARS rating of 3 or 4



3



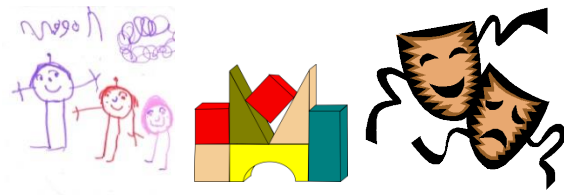
Teachers have specialized training in early childhood education and the tools to best help your child succeed

4

A curriculum that is often play-based and that looks towards kindergarten and beyond!



5



Many different materials and lessons that fit your child's age and development

6

Low adult-child ratios (ex: 1 teacher for 3 students) and small group sizes



7



Children getting warm, nurturing, individual attention

Questions to Ask When Visiting Child Care Programs

Q: What is your Keystone STARS rating?

A: 'We are a STAR 3 or 4 rated program.'

- STARS 3 and 4 level programs are the most highly rated
- They are best at preparing your child to succeed in school

Q: How do I know my child will be safe here?

A: You know best, but the answer should include: 'Our program meets regulations. Staff are trained in CPR, first aid, and in preventing, recognizing, and reporting child abuse. We follow regulations on handwashing, diapering, and preparing food and have locked away any hazardous materials. We also have a posted emergency plan.'

Q: What will my child learn this year?

A: This can change but should include: 'It depends on their age! Our curriculum is based on Pennsylvania's quality early learning standards.'

Q: What training does your staff have?

A: 'All of our teachers have at least an Associate degree in Early Childhood Education or a related field.' A four-year degree is even more training.

Q: What kind of parent involvement do you have?

A: 'We check-in with parents regularly.'

Q: When can I visit?

A: 'You can visit your child anytime you'd like.'

- You should be able to visit your child any time
- Every parent wants to know that their child is safe and well-taken care of!