



Child Care Visit and Comparison Sheet

Take this sheet to a provider visit and compare the details that matter to your family. It organizes observations and questions; it is not a quality rating or a licensing inspection.

Before the visit

Hours, days and starting date we need:

Travel, access, language or participation needs:

Official licensing or provider information checked:

Find the responsible state resources through [ChildCare.gov](https://www.childcare.gov). A provider's marketing description does not replace official licensing information.

Ask and observe

Question	Provider's reply or my observation
Who would care for my child each day? Who covers absences?	
How do adults respond when a child needs help or a limit?	
How are meals, rest, outdoor time and transitions arranged?	
How will I receive updates or raise a concern privately?	
What are the full fees, payment terms and notice requirements?	
Which policies and agreements can I read before deciding?	

Compare options

Detail	Option A	Option B
Hours and travel		
Staff arrangements		
Total fees and extra costs		
Communication and access		
Unanswered questions		

Illustrative comparison

One setting is closer but closes before your shift ends. Another has suitable hours but a longer journey and a separate meal fee. Record those differences and confirm the fee rather than relying on the headline price. Ask what happens if pickup is late before choosing the arrangement.

Detail	Illustrative Option A	Illustrative Option B
Hours and journey	Closes at 5; my shift ends at 5, so pickup is unresolved.	Closes at 6; the journey can fit, subject to confirming the schedule.
Cost information	Headline fee known; extra charges still to check.	Written fee schedule obtained; meal charge listed separately.
Next question	Can an authorized person cover pickup?	What are the notice and closure terms?

These invented entries show how to retain unanswered questions; they do not describe or rate real providers.

Before deciding

What I still need in writing:

Who I will contact and when:

What matters most in this choice:

[Read the complete choosing care guide](#) · [Prepare for the transition](#)

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