



CHILD CARE CHECKLIST

This checklist provides some basic items you should look for in a child care center

The Center

- Is the program licensed?
- Do the hours fit my needs?
- Does the location fit my needs?
- Is the group size appropriate for my child?
- Is the center clean?
- Is there enough space for the number of children?
- Are children signed in and out daily?
- Is there an outdoor play area?

The Staff

- Do staff genuinely like children?
- Do staff have education and experience in child care?
- Do staff receive on-going training?
- Is staff trained in CPR and first aid?
- Do you agree with the discipline policy?

Program

- Are daily activities balanced?
- Are activities age-appropriate?
- Does the curriculum offer a variety of activities?
- Will the program enhance your child's self esteem?
- Is the child care provider open during vacations or school holidays?
- Is homework time provided?

YMCAs of Santa Clara Valley:

Central YMCA

Serving San Jose, Willon Glen and Santa Clara
1717 The Alameda, San Jose
(408) 298-1717

East Valley Family YMCA

Serving East and North San Jose, Evergreen,
Silver Creek, Milpitas and Berryessa
1975 S. White Road, San Jose
(408) 715-6500

Northwest YMCA

Serving Cupertino, Sunnyvale and West Santa Clara
20803 Alves Drive, Cupertino
(408) 257-7160

Southwest YMCA

Serving Campbell, West San Jose, Saratoga
and Los Gatos
13500 Quito Road, Saratoga
(408) 370-1877

South Valley Family YMCA

Serving South San Jose, Blossom Valley, Almaden Valley
5632 Santa Teresa Blvd., San Jose
(408) 226-9622

Mt. Madonna YMCA

Serving Morgan Hill, San Martin and Gilroy
17666 Crest Ave., Morgan Hill
(408) 762-6000

Camp Campbell YMCA of the Redwoods

Serving Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties
16275 Hwy. 9 Boulder Creek
(831) 338-2128

Please visit us on-line at www.scvymca.org



We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

YMCA of Santa Clara Valley

YCHILD CARE™



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In our YMCA Child Care program, your child will participate in a fun and learning-supportive program while developing the values of Caring, Respect, Honesty and Responsibility through a variety of enriching activities.

We believe that:

- Programs should be opportunities and experiences that stimulate a child's physical, intellectual, emotional and social development in a learning-supportive environment.
- Programs must meet the developmental needs of a particular age group and most importantly, the individual needs of each child.
- The schedule, pacing and rhythm of each activity should be consistent with recognized principles of youth development.
- Children need many opportunities to make their own choices.
- The diversity of families is a strength of our community, therefore, programs must honor each child and family as unique.

Staff

YMCA child care staff are dedicated professionals. Our staff members are trained professionals chosen for both their academic accomplishments and their warm and friendly natures. YMCA staff genuinely like being with children. They have the patience to listen, and the experience to challenge children to be their best. We conduct extensive background checks before staff are hired, and all staff participate in ongoing certified YMCA training.

Parents

A parent is the most important person in a child's life. Working parents are faced with the difficult decision of choosing the best child care environment for their children. We believe our programs provide parents with the peace of mind necessary to maintain a balance between work and family obligations.

Child care is a partnership between the parent and the child care provider. The YMCA welcomes parent participation in programs and policy decision-making. This involvement contributes to the success of our programs. We encourage parents to visit the center, meet staff and participate in our program.

Enriching Activities

Your child will have many opportunities to have fun. Children enjoy our enrichment-based program because they make lots of friends and can choose to participate in a variety of activities in a learning-supportive environment. YMCA curriculum activities stimulate learning, creativity and imagination. Your child's program will include character development, arts and crafts, sports, games, cooking, science, performing arts, environmental awareness, literacy, homework support as well as a monthly community service project.

Character & Asset Development

YMCA child care programs incorporate hands-on learning experiences to teach the values of:

CARING - the ability to show compassion, forgiveness, generosity and kindness

HONESTY - to speak the truth and behave with integrity and fairness

RESPECT - understanding and acceptance of other people and different beliefs, empathy for others and self respect

RESPONSIBILITY - courage to do what is right, follow through on commitment, service for the community and good health practices

The YMCA also builds stronger children through asset development. Developmental Assets are part of every YMCA activity, and all programs are designed to teach youth values that will allow them to grow into healthy members of our community. Strong family involvement, positive adult role models, and a caring environment all contribute to youth development.

The YMCA

The YMCA of Santa Clara Valley is committed to preserving and strengthening the lives of families. We offer a variety of programs and services that enhance the lives of both children and adults:

- Health and Wellness
- Youth sports
- Family programs
- Teen programs
- Swim Lessons
- Camps
- Volunteer Opportunities

Convenience

- The YMCA cares for kids when and where they need care.
- Programs are located on elementary school campuses and at YMCA branches.
- Our schedules work around your schedule, and based on needs we provide care:
 - Before and after school
 - Mid-day for kindergartners
 - Holidays and vacations
 - Teacher in-service days

All centers are licensed, meeting and often exceeding requirements set by the State of California Department of Social Services.



Financial Assistance

Thanks to our generous donors, financial assistance helps make YMCA programs and services accessible to people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. Financial assistance forms can be obtained at all YMCA branches.

Mission Statement

The YMCA of Santa Clara Valley, based on Judeo-Christian principles, is committed to strengthening and enriching the development of individuals and families through quality programs and services that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.