

Kidango Center Comparison Guide

The following guide was created to aid parents/caregivers in the process of selecting an appropriate early education program for their child. Kidango highly suggests that parents tour facilities prior to making a selection and ask questions whenever something is unclear or appears to be missing.

Using the checklist below, programs which result in a higher number of check marks are those which meet more requirements and guidelines set forth by state and national authorities on early education programs.

Kidango
Program B
Program C

Place and Environment			
Is the center's license displayed in a visible location?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the ages and quantity of children comply with the license?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is space divided so that different age groups can have appropriate space?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the toys and materials developmentally appropriate for the age groups served at the center?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the environment arranged so that toys and materials are accessible to the children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there visible learning centers that are labeled with words and pictures?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the furnishings in the facility sized appropriately for the ages and sizes of the children attending the center?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are materials in the classroom labeled in the languages the children speak?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do photos and art in the facility represent the cultures of all the children enrolled?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any obvious hazards such as uncovered outlets, dangerous substances, or medications within reach of children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there fire extinguishers on site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the emergency evacuation plan posted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the bathrooms clean and appropriately sized for the children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the children have appropriate space to play safely outside?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the outdoor equipment sturdy and in good condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there shade available where children play outside?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do children under age 2 have a separate space to play outdoors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the children appear happy in the facility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the facility provide an inclusive environment which accommodates children with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is your initial reaction upon entering the site a positive one?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all surfaces disinfected throughout the day and at closing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the facility professionally cleaned daily?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there security procedures in place to ensure the safety of children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Program & Curriculum			
Is the schedule of daily activity readily available and current?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a method of daily communication between providers and parents?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are healthy meals and snacks provided free of charge that meets the nutrition requirements of the USDA Child Care Food Program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the menu posted and current?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there methods for active, regular parent participation in the program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the children and staff wash hands after diapering/toileting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there opportunity for children to make choices throughout the day?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the providers have a positive method for handling conflict among children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the program have a policy on attendance of sick children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the staff able to explain to you how they prepare children for success in school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are parents/guardians welcome at any time to visit or observe their child in the facility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there opportunities for parents/guardians to meet and get involved as a group?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a plan to help transition children when entering and leaving the program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a bulletin board with relevant information for families?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is information posted in appropriate languages to meet the needs of families?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the program provide learning experiences that promote the cognitive, language, social-emotional, and physical development of all children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the program accredited or working toward accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do children have access to a computer with educational programming?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is children's work displayed proudly within the center?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

People			
Are teaching staff credentialed by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does center staff interact and engage with the children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the center exceed Title 22 staffing requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does staff have current CPR and First Aid certification?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the staff seem patient and receptive to the needs of the children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does staff position themselves effectively to supervise the activities and movement of the children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are teachers afforded opportunities for professional development and growth?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are teachers involved in continuing education, including frequent trainings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

