Selecting Quality Child Care
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Day Care Center

• **Description:** 13 or more children ages 4 weeks to 13 years. Divided by age groups. State license required

• **Advantages:** Cares for basic needs of child, concern for child only

• **Disadvantages:** Crowded, high ratios
Family Day Care

• **Description:** Child care within a family home that provides care for 4 or more children, but no more than 6. Usually children have to be 6 to 8 weeks of age.

• **Advantages:** Homelike, low numbers

• **Disadvantages:** Not structured, usually more costly than day care.
In-Home Child Care

• **Description:** takes place in the child’s own home.

• **Advantages:** Chances of getting sick or safety issues is minimal.

• **Disadvantages:** Educational activities are not a priority so children entering school may be low performing.
Montessori School

- **Description:** Learn by playing independently with Montessori toys. Children use concrete objects and use 5 senses

- **Advantages:** Teaches self motivation, basic skills

- **Disadvantages:** Expensive, low teacher interaction
Preschool Programs

- **Description:** Kindergarten preparation, promotes intellectual development, some offer programs to children as young as 2

- **Advantages:** Designed for overall growth of child

- **Disadvantages:** Expensive, usually only a half day program
References/Resources

Child Care Aware: America’s most trusted child care resource.
http://childcareaware.org
Gives parents information on choosing a child care


National Association for the Education of Young Children
http://www.naeyc.org
Articles on Childhood Programs

Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us
Information on Child Care Licensing and other helpful information for parents