

Your child thrives under the care of a high-quality caregiver.
A high-quality childcare provider...

... IS LOVING AND RESPONSIVE



Does the caregiver:

- Enjoy responding to and interacting with your child?
- Support and encourage your child in his or her relationships and skills?
- Act as a playful and social companion for your child?

... RESPECTS THE CHILD'S INDIVIDUALITY

Does the caregiver:

- Nurture your child with his or her development in mind?
- Notice your child's personal traits and care for him or her with those traits in mind?
- Accommodate your child's special needs?



... PROVIDES A STIMULATING, CHILD-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT



Is the childcare space:

- Clean, safe and organized?
- Interesting, stimulating and adaptable for free play and learning?
- Set up comfortably to allow adults to focus solely on the children?

... IS FAMILIAR WITH SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Does the caregiver:

- Provide curriculum or scheduled learning for your child?
- Develop his or her own skills by participating in training and professional development to best serve your child?



... HAS A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHILD'S PARENT



Does the caregiver:

- Create a welcoming atmosphere and communicate the importance of family involvement?
- Communicate well with you as the child's parent?

Rooted in Relationships partners with communities to implement evidence-based practices that enhance the social-emotional development of children, birth through age 8.

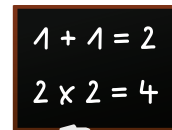
Strong social emotional development sets your child up for more positive experiences.



A child who can form close and secure adult and peer relationships.



A child who can experience, regulate, and express emotions in socially and culturally appropriate ways



A child who can explore his or her environment and learn.

How do I use this checklist?

This checklist is a tool to help you choose a high-quality childcare provider for your child. You can get the most out of your checklist by following these steps:

1

Start with the Nebraska Child Care Referral Network by visiting **nechildcarereferral.org**. This website can help working parents find childcare in their area for children from birth to age 12. Parents can search for providers based on certain criteria like environment, subsidy acceptance, childcare license type, age of children needing care, location, and more.

2

Call, visit, interview and check testimonials and reviews of the childcare providers on your list. As you're gathering information, keep the elements of a high-quality childcare provider in mind.

3

Go through one checklist for each childcare provider. Check off the elements as you notice them in the environment and personnel you're dealing with. Using these criteria, choose a provider that best meets your family's needs.