

Chapter 5 Applications

Child Care

1. The Adorable Kids Child Care Center states its goal is that children will be treated as if cared for by their own mothers. Extreme caution is taken to keep infants safe and healthy. For example, each infant can play only with toys he/she brings from home. Only former housewives, preferably grandmothers, are hired to care for infants. There is a schedule of activities designed to meet children's needs, as follows:

7:00-8:00	Arrival
8:00-9:00	Play in playpens or beds
9:00-10:00	Floor play
10:00-11:00	Nap
11:00-12:00	Lunch
12:00-3:00	Nap
3:00-4:00	Look at books and listen to music
4:00	Begin going home

You visit Adorable Kids when shopping for child care for your six-month old. You notice the building is clean and uncluttered. There are nine infants and two adults.

What indicators of quality do you see?

What indicators of concern do you see?

2. The Better Beginnings Child Care Center advertises that it hires only staff with degrees. The teacher of four-year olds has a degree in secondary education and a teaching certificate. The classroom has a desk and chair for each child. The daily schedule is posted and includes a 30 minute lesson on letters and numbers, 30 minutes on crafts, and 30 minutes on practicing writing.

You visit Better Beginnings looking for child care for your four-year old. While you are there, you notice five children in the classroom your child would be in are sitting on chairs. The teacher says they are sitting there as punishment for talking during the lesson.

What indicators of quality do you see?

What indicators of concern do you see?

3. Darling Dears Child Care Center offers a program for toddlers. Policies are in writing. You notice parents and children talking informally as children are dropped off. You also notice in the written policy that children cannot attend when they have a temperature above 101 degrees. Knowing you cannot miss work to stay home with a sick child, you ask the director about the policy regarding children with temperatures above 101. The director explains the health reasons for the policy and states clearly that this policy is enforced. The director also tells you some things other parents do for care of a sick child.

In walking through the center, you notice child-size chairs and tables and many interesting toys arranged on low shelves within children's reach. The toddler room has 18 children and three adults. Since the written materials state that the center's goal is to foster the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of each child, you ask how this is evaluated. The director says children are evaluated through teacher observation.

What indicators of quality do you see?

What indicators of concern do you see?

Piaget

- ___ During this stage, thought becomes more complex but children do not yet develop the capacity for abstract reasoning
 - ___ This stage is characterized by the use of eyes, ears, and hands to explore the environment
 - ___ During this this stage, children development the capacity for abstract thought
 - ___ Children primarily use language to interact with their environment, but judgments about the world are based on outward appearances and often lead to illogical conclusions
1. sensorimotor
 2. preoperational
 3. concrete operations
 4. formal operations