## Valley Oak Children's Services

# Choosing Child Care—5 Steps to Finding Care



### Be Informed

- Contact your local Resource and Referral agency. (www.rrnetwork.org under family service)
- Contact your regional state CCL office which licenses child care (for compliant information).
- Ask relatives, friends, and neighbors.
- Check the newspaper and community bulletin boards.
- Oliver's Law: as a parent, you have the right to get information about any substantiated or inconclusive complaints about a child care provider that you select for you child. That information is public and you can get it by calling the local licensing office.

Community Care Licensing at 1-844-538-8267

Set up an interview with the potential provider.





### Look

- Is the facility safe, comfortable, and clean?
- Is there a quiet place for naps?
- Is the provider responsive to child's needs?
- Are there a variety of toys to play with?
- Is there a sanitary diaper changing area?
- Is the kitchen clean and sanitary?
- How do the children interact with each other?

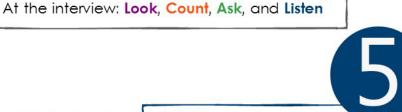






#### Count

- Are there the correct number of adults per child?
- How many infants are in care?
- Are you comfortable with the adult:child ratio?





- To the answers that are given (take notes).
- To the noise level of the room.
- For joyful noise from the children.
- For a respectful attitude towards the kids.
- To the feelings you have.
- To any concerns you might have.
- To any concerns your child might have.





- What is your experience and/or education in child care and child development?
- What is your discipline philosophy?
- What kinds of things do you do to help a new child transition into care?
- What do you do when a child cries?
- How would you react if you saw my child bite another?
- How long have you been doing child care?
- Can I visit my child whenever I want?
- What is your plan for an emergency?
- What do you charge and what does that include?
- Do you have a contract?

Ask





Contact Valley Oak Children's Services for more information 3120 Cohasset Road Suite 6 Chico, CA 95973 (530) 895-3572 Outside Chico area 1-800-345-VOCS www.valleyoakchildren.org