

Early Childhood Education Resources for Families

April 2021

Childcare and Preschool

Arizona Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR)

<https://www.azccrr.com/>

1-800-308-9000

Head Start Locator

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/center-locator>

Quality First Child Care Quality Checklist

<https://qualityfirstaz.com/quality-child-care-checklist/>

First Things First: Quality Care in Your Region

<https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/governance/ftf-regions/find-your-region/>

First Things First: Quality First Scholarships and Other Financial Assistance

<https://qualityfirstaz.com/parents/paying-for-child-care/>

Arizona Department of Economic Security: Child Care

<https://des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care>

Department of Economic Security in Training Childcare Subsidy

<https://des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care>



"From the day a child is born, the care, attention, love and support they experience lays the foundation for their future."

- First Things First



Parenting Support

Birth to Five Helpline

Free service to Arizona families with young children with questions or concerns about their infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

CALL 877-705-KIDS (5437)

*bilingual English/Spanish

You can ask about anything, including:

- Sleep
- Feeding/Eating
- Fussiness
- Tantrums/Challenging Behaviors
- Potty Training
- Child Development
- Health and Nutrition
- Parenting

Or submit your question online:

<https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/resources/birth-five-helpline/>

First Things First Parent Kit

Digital toolkit to help meet the challenges of being a parent and support the health development of your baby, toddler, or preschooler.

<https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/resources/parent-kit/>

WEB and SOCIAL MEDIA

First Things First

www.firstthingsfirst.org

Quality First

<https://qualityfirstaz.com/>

CCRR

Facebook: @arizonachildcare

Instagram: @azccrr

Twitter: @AZChildCare

Pinterest: ArizonaCCRR

Make Way for Books

<https://makewayforbooks.org/>

Facebook: @makewayforbooksaz

Twitter: @MWFBAz

Instagram: @makewayforbooks

App: Apple and Android, English and Spanish versions

Vroom app: Apple and Android

<https://www.vroom.org/>



 FTFArizona

 @AZFTF

 @azfirstthingsfirst

 first-things-first

 AZFirstThingsFirst



vroom

The brain
develops most
rapidly in the first
five years of
life.

 joinvroom.org 

Make Way for Books App

AT YOUR VISIT: THINGS TO LOOK FOR

POSITIVE, NURTURING TEACHER/CHILD INTERACTIONS

- Does the teacher make eye contact with the children, smile and listen without interrupting?
- Is the teacher at eye level with the kids when they are interacting?
- Is the teacher interacting with children during activity times indoors and outdoors?
- Do you hear the kids talking more than the teacher? Child voices should dominate.
- Does the teacher ask the children questions where they can give more than a yes/no answer?
- Are the children supervised at all times? Children should never be left alone and should always be within sight and sound of teachers.

CARING FOR INFANTS

- Are babies placed on their backs to sleep?
- Do babies spend part of their play time on their tummies?
- Do caregivers respond promptly to crying babies?
- Are babies held while being fed?

POSITIVE CHILD/CHILD INTERACTIONS

- Are kids playing either together or side-by-side?
- Are children encouraged to work together to resolve differences or conflicts?
- Do kids move freely from activity to activity?

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Is there ample space and materials to encourage play and learning within the children's reach, including:

- Books, books and more books
- Blocks and puzzles
- Pretend play area with puppets, costumes, etc.
- Art /writing materials and musical instruments
- Textured materials, such as sand and water
- Science materials, like plants, funnels, magnifying glasses, etc.

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

- Is there an outdoor play area, with shade, that is used daily?
- Are items from the classroom brought outdoors to be played with?
- Are the adults actively engaged with the kids at play?

AFTER YOUR VISIT: QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD

Trust your instincts and also your child's reactions to the teachers and environment.

- Do you think you would like to go play there?
- What did you like best about the classroom?
- What did you like best about the teacher?

NOTES
