



**Kids' Care Club**

Child Development Centers

## Comparing Preschool Programs

Program Characteristics		Center 2
 <p>Are there goals that address all areas of a child's development - social, emotional, intellectual, and physical?</p>		
 <p>Is there a program with culturally diverse content and materials?</p>		
 <p>Are there activities that encourage self-expression, help children develop motor skills; regularly expose the children to literature, language arts, music, science, and nature?</p>		
 <p>Does the staff encourage and respond to children's interest in reading, writing, and counting?</p>		
 <p>Is there a balance of various sized group activities; spontaneous play, and teacher guided activities?</p>		
 <p>Are there nutritious snacks?</p>		
 <p>Is there a balance between rest, quiet periods, and vigorous outdoor activities?</p>		

## Staff Characteristics



## Center 2



Are the teachers trained in early childhood education?



What is the teacher-to-child ratio?



Has the staff been stable over the years?



Does the staff welcome parents as participants and communicate regularly with them?



Do the teachers express warmth, interest, and respect for each child?



Are the teachers engaged with the children most of the time?



## Environment Characteristics



## Center 2



Do children have access to bathrooms directly from the classroom?



Is there a spacious outdoor area for play?  
Great components include a garden, art studio, music gazebo, stage, bikes, climbing wall, playground structures, and a separate infant/toddler area!



Is there a sufficient supply of learning material in and out of the classroom?



Can children find small, quiet places in the classroom if they want to?



## Notes: