

# 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](http://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](http://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

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