

TYPES OF CHILD CARE: OUTLINE

Choosing a child care program is a very important decision. Depending on the area in which you live, there are different options available. Things to consider when choosing a child care include: how much it costs and what ages children are accepted.

- I. **Day Care Center:** Child care for 13 or more children ages 4 weeks to 13 years. License required.
 - A. Advantages: Cares for basic needs of child, concern for child only
 - B. Disadvantages: Crowded, high ratios
 - a. Day care centers in your area
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

- II. **Home Day Care:** Child care within a family home that provides care for 4 or more children but no more than 6. Usually children have to be 6 to 8 weeks of age.
 - A. Advantages: Homelike, low ratios
 - B. Disadvantages: Not structured, difficult to enforce licensing and credentials of caregivers, can be more costly than day care
 - a. Home day care centers in your area
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

- III. **Head Start:** Helps low-income children enter kindergarten at a higher educational level
 - A. Advantages: Meals, shots, health care, professional staff, government funded, and transportation
 - B. Disadvantages: Entering children may be low performing and have emotional problems
 - a. Head Start programs in your area
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

IV. **Montessori Schools:** Children learn by playing on their own with Montessori toys, using concrete objects and 5 senses.

A. Advantages: Teaches self-motivation and basic life skills

B. Disadvantages: Expensive, low teacher interaction

a. Montessori Schools in your area

1.

2.

3.

V. **Nursery School:** Kindergarten prep, promotes intellectual development, can have programs for children as young as 2.

A. Advantages: Program designed for overall growth of child

B. Disadvantages: Expensive (\$125-\$275 per month), usually only a half day program

a. Name nursery schools in your area.

1.

2.

3.