

Maryland EXCELS Video

Tip 1

Transcript and Video Description

[Music]

MARYLAND EXCELS

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Narrator: Hello! Are you looking for child care? If so, this short video series is for you. In just a few minutes, I'll cover the most important how-tos for choosing a quality early education program in Maryland. Then you'll be ready to select the right program for your child through MarylandEXCELS [dot] org.

TIP 1: HOW TO FIND CHILD CARE

Narrator: Finding child care begins and ends with what's best for you and your child. Important things to think about include cost, convenience, location—and, of course, quality!

Narrator: Simply ask yourself a few questions:

Narrator:

- What days and hours will I need child care?
- Would I like child care located near my home, my work or maybe near a relative or friend?
- How much can I comfortably afford to pay for child care?

TURN YOUR ATTENTION TO QUALITY

Narrator: After considering convenience, location and cost, it's time to turn your attention to quality. Research shows the first five years of a child's life build an important foundation for how children succeed in school and life. With that in mind, your child needs an environment that engages with your family, is respectful of your culture and language, is sensitive to your child's unique needs, and promotes a love of learning.

- ENGAGES WITH YOUR FAMILY
- RESPECTS YOUR CULTURE AND LANGUAGE

- MEETS YOUR CHILD'S UNIQUE NEEDS
- PROMOTES A LOVE OF LEARNING

Narrator: All children need to be nurtured. For your child that may mean more one-on-one time or a balance of one-on-one and time with peers. Depending on your child's interests and activity levels, consider whether they thrive best in smaller or larger group settings. The supplies, play spaces and equipment available should meet their individual needs and provide ample opportunities for learning.

Narrator: The environment must also accommodate any behavioral or health needs your child may have.

- CONTENT
- CONNECTED
- CARED FOR

Narrator: Your child deserves an environment where they feel content, connected and cared for.

SEARCH

MARYLANDEXCELS.ORG/DIRECTORY
TO FIND A PROGRAM

Narrator: Find your best options for high quality child care and early education programs at MarylandEXCELS[dot]org and search the Find a Program directory. Your next step is to interview child care providers. Learn interviewing tips in video 2 of this series.

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OFFICE OF CHILD CARE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION IDEALS INSTITUTE

Need help paying for child care? Visit money4childcare.com.