

Skills for Living

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Topic 11-2

Child Care Options

- In this topic, you will learn about the options parents have for child care, as well as
 - ❖ **Types of child care**
 - ❖ **Selecting quality child care**

Child Care Options

Objectives for Topic 11-2

After studying this topic, you will be able to

- identify child care options
- list factors parents should consider when choosing a child care facility

Topic 11-2 Terms

- ❖ nanny
- ❖ child care cooperatives

Types of Child Care

- Child care in the parent's home
 - ❖ is usually most convenient for parents
 - ❖ is often provided by a relative or close friend
 - ❖ may be provided by a *nanny*, a trained caregiver who provides quality care for children in the parent's home
- Child care in the caregiver's home
 - ❖ is the most common type of child care
 - ❖ offers flexibility
 - ❖ is less costly

Types of Child Care

■ *Child care cooperatives*

- ❖ are formed by groups of parents who share the care of their children, allowing parents more control over the program
- ❖ often expect parents to volunteer time instead of paying for the child care

■ School- or university-sponsored child care programs

- ❖ use student teachers to provide child care
- ❖ offer high-quality staff and curriculum

Types of Child Care

- Church or social group programs
 - ❖ are group-sponsored
 - ❖ usually charge low fees
- Government-sponsored child care programs
 - ❖ are offered to lower income working families
 - ❖ must meet strict guidelines
 - ❖ charge low or no fees

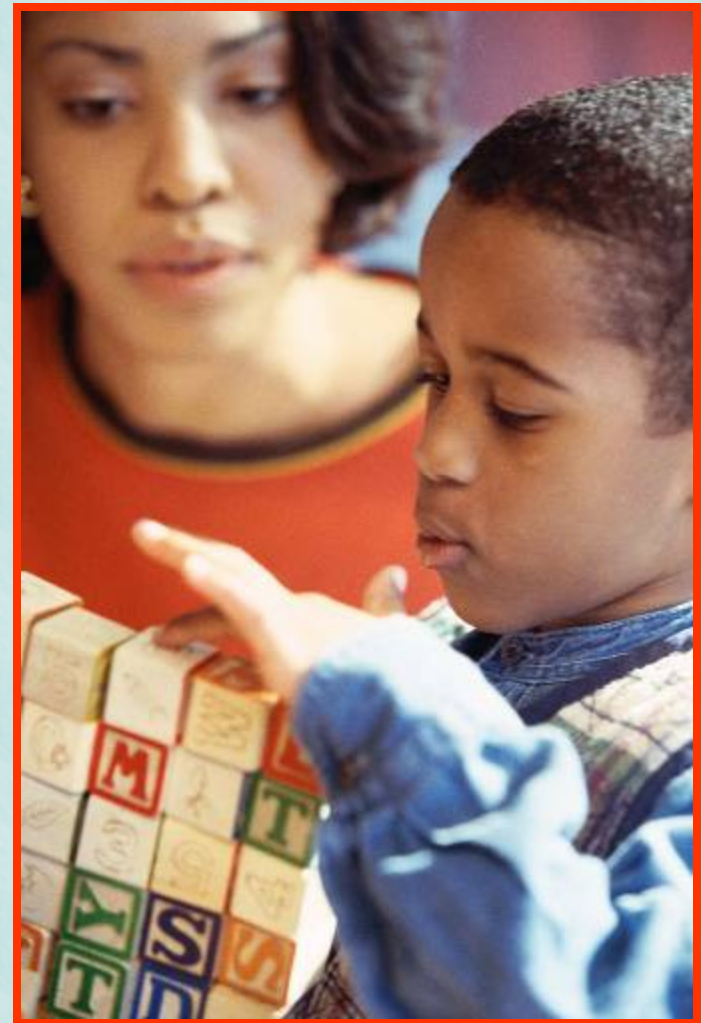


Types of Child Care

- Employer-sponsored child care services
 - ❖ promote employee dependability
 - ❖ may be on site or near workplace
 - ❖ employers may pay all or part of cost
- Privately owned or franchised child care centers
 - ❖ are profit-motivated
 - ❖ operate as a business
 - ❖ offer similar services at each franchise

Selecting Quality Child Care

- Parents need to consider
 - ❖ their needs
 - ❖ their children's needs
 - ❖ the effects on their children's development
 - ❖ the children's health and safety



Comfortable, Homelike Setting

- The physical setting should
 - ❖ be comfortable
 - ❖ be bright and cheerful
 - ❖ include child-sized furnishings
 - ❖ be flexible

Age-Appropriate Programs

- Infants and toddlers have unique needs
- Programs for younger children should build trust with caregivers
- Older children need a variety of learning experiences

Adequate Adult Supervision

- Adult-child ratio is usually a state requirement
- One adult is considered appropriate for
 - ❖ three infants
 - ❖ four toddlers
 - ❖ eight preschoolers

Consistent, Quality Care Provided by Caregivers

- Caregivers should be trained and experienced for their work with children



Other Factors

- Location of the care facility
- Fees
- Development of the children
- Health and safety
- Warm, loving care

Summary for Topic 11-2

- There are many types of child care options available to families
- In selecting quality child care, parents must consider several factors
- Parents should choose the option that best meets their needs and their child's needs