

Valley Oak Children's Services

Resource & Referral
895-3572 or 800-345-8627



287 Rio Lindo Avenue
Chico, CA 95926

CHILD CARE CENTERS IN BUTTE COUNTY

CHICO

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS CHILDREN'S CENTER

California State University, Chico, CA 95929

898-5865

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:45 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 101

Ages: 8 wks-5 yrs

Self-Description: The children of CSU, Chico students are priority. Meals and snacks are offered. Center goals are to provide a safe, quality child care center and to offer an environment which meets the individual needs of kids socially, cognitively, emotionally and physically.

BERRY BARN PRESCHOOL

1906 West Sacramento Ave. Chico, CA 95926

894-3366

Days/Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

Capacity: 14

Ages: 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: Country environment. Age appropriate curriculum and enhanced positive communication skills, serene and enriching environment.

BIDWELL ACADEMY FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

120 Mission Ranch Blvd. Chico, CA 95973

345-2292

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 72

Ages: 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: A quality program created by educated and experienced teachers providing a curriculum of kindness, discovery and individualism with parent involvement, low ratios, consistent daily routine, new building and spacious outdoor area.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

55 Jan Ct. Chico, 95928

892-2273

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 86

Ages: 0-12 yrs

Self-Description: Semi-structured with a balance of teacher-directed and child-directed activities. Center provides a safe, clean environment with parent web cameras and park-like and child-oriented classrooms.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS /YELLOWSTONE**345-7100**

120 Yellowstone Dr. Chico, CA 95973

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 86**Ages:** 6 wks-6 yrs

Self-Description: A child-centered program that allows children to develop at their own pace. Program includes circle time, music, art, group-time, discovery, Karate lessons, outdoor free play/games, zoo-phonics and more. All ages have daily appropriate activities.

BUTTE COLLEGE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

3536 Butte Campus Dr. Oroville, CA 95965

895-2865**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

During Fall & Spring semesters only

Capacity: 112**Ages:** 6 wks-5 yrs

Self-Description: Accredited center that meets the needs of students, parents and staff for high quality child care by demonstrating basic principles of developmentally appropriate education in an ECE setting and providing a developmentally based early childhood education program for children 6 weeks – 5 years. The program is operated on a non-discriminatory basis, according equal treatment and access to services without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin or ancestry.

CASTLES PRESCHOOL1885 E. 8TH St. Chico, CA 95928**899-7777****Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 110**Ages:** 0-12 yrs

Self-Description: Infant Center, Preschool Center, Pre-K Class, and After School Program. Meals, transportation, and field trips are all included in monthly tuition. Jumpy House is available for all birthday parties.

CDL 2 (CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY & LEARNING)

422 B Otterson Dr. #10 Chico, CA 95928

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M.**893-2352**

12:30 P.M.-3:30 P.M.

Capacity: 24**Ages:** 2.5-6 yrs

Self-Description: We are an open structured program supporting the developmental needs and interests of each child. Children have the freedom to make choices, learn skills, practice independence and develop confidence.

CHICO CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL & DAY CARE

2801 Notre Dame Blvd. Chico, CA 95928

879-8988**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 110**Ages:** 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: A carefully supervised and balanced program is offered at this center. Our program will allow children to learn and develop at their own pace. Program includes: music, drama, cooking, blocks, indoor/outdoor play, chapel, Bible stories, and sharing. Toddler class also offered for non-potty trained children who attend all day.

CHICO COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTER, EATON

1270 Eaton Rd. Chico, CA 95973

343-9349**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.**Capacity:** 28**Ages:** 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: Chico Community Children's Center's Eaton Road site offers full time, high quality child care and development services with an emphasis on meeting children's complete developmental needs. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack are provided. Parent involvement and education, in addition to referrals to community services and agencies, are provided to meet whole family needs. Fees are on a sliding scale.

CHICO COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTER, ELM

2224 Elm St. Chico, CA 95928

891-5363**INFANT, TODDLER AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS****Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.**Capacity:** 41**Ages:** 6 mths-5 yrs

Self-Description: Programs offer individualized, loving care, well-rounded developmental programs and nutritious meals. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack are provided. Fees are on a sliding scale based on income and family size.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 11:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Holidays/Summer hours, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 24**Ages:** 5-10 yrs

Self-Description: The After School Program operates year-round providing full-day care during traditional school holidays and summer. Breakfast, lunch and snack are served on these days. On regular school days, the After School Program opens at 11:30 A.M. to accommodate morning Kindergarteners and lunch and a snack are served. Emphasis is on community awareness, recreational activities, arts and crafts and tutorial services.

CHICO MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S HOUSE

814 Glenn St. Chico, CA 95928

342-5518**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday

8:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M.

1:00 P.M.-4:00 P.M.

8:30 A.M.-4:00 P.M. .

Summer Hours, 8:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M

Capacity: 48**Ages:** 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Chico Montessori Children's House is a school for the development of the whole child. Our prepared learning environment includes Montessori-trained teachers and the following curriculum areas: practical life (including food preparation), sensory, math, language, art, science, geography, creative movement and gardening.

CHICO NURSERY SCHOOL, A COOPERATIVE

1190 E. 1st. Ave. Chico, CA 95926

891-1723

Days/Hours: Mon/Wed/Fri (4-5 yrs)
Tue/Thur (3 yrs)
9:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Program is an independent nationally accredited parent cooperative. Classroom participation and parent meetings are required. Open September - May.

CHICO OAKS PRESCHOOL

1859 Hooker Oak Ave. Chico, CA 95926

342-4813

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 42

Ages: 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: We provide a warm, loving environment, encouraging the children to explore and create. We also emphasize the love of our Creator and include Him in our program with prayer, worship, stories, song, and various other activities.

CIRCLES CHILDREN CENTER

2345 Fair St. Chico CA 95928

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-11:00 A.M. & 12:00-3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Circles Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Bald Rock Children's Center, Oakdale Heights Children's Center, and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

ENCHANTED KINGDOM, THE

4 Creative Lane Chico, CA 95926

343-5228

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M.-6:30 P.M.

Capacity: 48

Ages: 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: Full preschool/child care center, Pre-K Readiness.

FOREVER YOUNG LEARNING CENTER

345-4858

291 E. Lassen Ave. Chico, CA 95973

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 44

Ages: 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: Children will begin learning to read with Zoo Phonics. Other learning areas include creative dance, music and science. Come by the facility or ask for a brochure to be sent.

HEAD START CHICO

Administration Office

1755 Bird St. Oroville, Ca 95965

538-7719

Days/Hours: Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

891-2807

Classroom Hours: Tuesday-Friday

8:00 A.M.-11:30 P.M. & 12:30 P.M.-4:0 P.M.

Capacity: Varies

Ages: 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: Head Start and Early Head Start are child enrichment programs serving eligible families in Chico, Paradise, Oroville, Gridley and Spring Valley. Families may participate in center-based, home-based or family child care programs. Head Start provides a comprehensive curriculum including education, health services, parental involvement, social services and special needs.

INNOVATIVE PRESCHOOL INC.

2404 Marigold Ave. Chico, CA 95926

343-2028

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 83

Ages: 2.9-6 yrs

Self-Description: Innovative Preschool is a model blended preschool, serving children with and without special needs, in a diverse environment that facilitates fun learning, social competence, mutual respect and self-confidence. Parent involvement is encouraged. Program includes breakfast and afternoon snack.

KIDS KORNER

1152 Manzanita Ave. Chico, CA 95926

896-1023

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:45 A.M.-5:15 P.M.

Capacity: 15

Ages: 2.5-5 yrs

Self-Description: We offer a preschool program.

KINDER KIDS/ESPLANADE

2845 Esplanade Chico, CA 95973

342-5433

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 45

Ages: 2-10 yrs

Self-Description: Not available.

KINDER KIDS/OVERLAND COURT

15 Overland Ct. Chico, CA 95928

342-5435

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7: 30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 57

Ages: 2-6 yrs

Self-Description: Not available.

KING'S CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

1137 Arbutus Ave. Chico, CA 95926

345-3100

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 98

Ages: 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: A Christian based day care center with preschool, pre-K and summer programs. Educational offerings include theme-based curriculum, sports, games, field trip, arts and crafts, bible music, Spanish and cooking. Other benefits are: flexible scheduling, hot lunch, speech screening, off-track care, parent involvement and teachers who love working with children.

LAURA'S DAY CARE CENTER & PRESCHOOL

475 E. 5th Ave. Chico, CA 95926

343-1516

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:45 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 36

Ages: 2-6 yrs

Self-Description: Fun, health and safety emphasized. Swimming pool and Red Cross WSI lessons, gymnastics, twelve children per group, more teachers for younger diapered children, music, science, arts & crafts and field trips, kinder music program and Spanish Language Adventures, hot lunches and two snacks served. Nurse on duty, Fluffy the Clown for birthdays. Center participates in "Make A Difference Day" and many family events. Program established in 1979.

LEE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAM

2550 Highway 32, Ste A Chico, CA 95973

879-9507

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M.

Capacity: 8

Ages: 3-6 yrs

Self-Description: Lee Kindergarten Readiness Program is structured to prepare your child for Kindergarten. To better prepare each student for kindergarten, our classroom resembles a Kindergarten classroom setting. Our program is thematically based. Each week a different color, shape, number and theme are highlighted. Our program director, Amy Lee is a Speech-Language Pathologist.

LITTLE DISCOVERIES DAY CARE AND PRESCHOOL

460 W. East Ave. Ste. 210 Chico CA 95973

342-7758

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 88

Ages: 0-12 yrs

Self-Description: Classrooms provide age appropriate curriculum by separating each age group into individual classrooms. We provide all meals. Children are given an opportunity to learn in a stimulating environment with hands- on activities. After School program is offered for 5-12 year olds including homework club, computers, art activities and indoor/outdoor play. School age summer program offers many field trips and cooking projects every Friday. Spacious infant classroom offers a loving environment with a 4-1 ratio and a maximum of twelve infants. Transportation is available for school age children.

LITTLE DISCOVERIES DAY CARE AND PRESCHOOL DOWNTOWN

500 Orient St. Ste. 180 Chico, CA 95928

342-2484

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 56

Ages: 0-5 yrs

Self-Description: Classrooms provide age appropriate curriculum by separating each age group into individual classrooms. We provide all meals. Children are given an opportunity to learn in a stimulating environment with hands- on activities. Our infant program is available in a safe and loving environment with a 4-1 ratio. After school program is offered for kindergarten age children including homework assistance, activities and indoor/outdoor play. Transportation is available for school age children.

LITTLE FOLKS PRESCHOOL

2855 Burnap Ave. Chico, CA 95973

894-5437

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24

Ages: 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: Morning and afternoon preschool program, meals and field trips.

LITTLE TREASURES

2010 Notre Dame Blvd. Chico CA 95928

345-3415

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:45 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 55

Ages: 0-12 yrs

Self-Description: Based on the philosophy that children should learn at their own pace, we offer an "open", stimulating environment for children to explore & learn in.

MARIPOSA CHILDREN'S CENTER

2603 Mariposa Chico, CA 95926

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 20

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Mariposa Children's Center is a partnership between Butte County Office of Education and Head Start so children benefit from the expertise of two programs! Preschoolers learn new skills in an educational environment that will prepare them for learning and socializing in Kindergarten. Parents are also given support through parent education and participation in center activities. This state-endorsed program is FREE for most low to middle income families (call for eligibility details). *See Table Mountain Children's Center and South Oroville Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in Oroville*

MIGRANT HEAD START

564 Rio Lindo Ave. #209 Chico, CA 95926 Northern Regional Office

ADMIN: 895-3588

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Capacity: 12 Infant/Toddler
22 Preschoolers

Ages: 3 mths-5 yrs

Self-Description: Geared to serve the children of migrant farm working families in the area. Parent involvement, health, nutrition and education are stressed, emphasis on bilingual early childhood education.

OAK STREET CHILDREN'S CENTER

115 Oak St. Chico, CA 95928

532-5643**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 38**Ages:** 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Oak Street Children's Center is located across the street from Rosedale Elementary School, and provides preschool services in a safe, caring environment. We specialize in educational play, while making new friends and finding positive role models. Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided. This high-quality, state-endorsed center is free to most low to middle income families (call for eligibility requirements). *See Hilltop Children's Center in Oroville and Vista Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

PEANUT BUTTER PALACE

3524 Hicks Lane Chico, CA 95973

899 - 0222**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 30**Ages:** 2-6 yrs

Self-Description: Not available.

SMART START PRESCHOOL

1585 East Ave. Chico, CA 95926

897-6278**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 156**Ages:** 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: We offer theme-based curriculum that allows children the freedom to explore and interact with others, while learning new skills and concepts. We also have a huge outdoor area with lots of grass and two Miracle Play structures. Daily tours available 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

STORYBOOK SCHOOLHOUSE

794 E. 3rd Ave. Chico, CA 95926

895-8793**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 126**Ages:** 0-12 yrs

Self-Description: Program offers a loving, safe and stimulating environment for infants, toddlers, preschool and school age children to develop at his/her own unique pace. A theme-based curriculum is offered, along with a wide variety of arts/crafts, creative art, baking/cooking, field trips, swimming, homework club and more. Transportation is available. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided. For more information check out www.storybooksschoolhouse.net

SUPER LUPER KIDS SPRINGFIELD

1450 Springfield Dr. Chico, CA 95928

895-8796**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.**Capacity:** 64**Ages:** 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: Pre-Kindergarten Readiness Program, including lots of "hands on" activities, creative art, theme-based curriculum, baking and cooking plus much more. School Age Program offers homework club, field trips, sports, crafts and transportation to public schools. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack are provided and USDA approved. Staff is trained in Early Childhood Education and CPR/First Aid Certified. Center is centrally located and provides an enriched learning environment.

SUNSHINE KIDS CLUB

891-3618

702 Mangrove Ave., Chico CA 95926

Days/Hours: Operates Sept. - May, call for a schedule of classes

Capacity: Varies

Ages: 5-18 yrs

Self-Description: Provides fully inclusive programs to foster self esteem and promote acceptance for all children. The club serves children 5-18 and welcomes children of differing abilities. Kids can participate in various programs. Call for a class schedule.

GRIDLEY

GRIDLEY MIGRANT CHILDREN'S CENTER

1567 Booth Dr. Gridley, CA 95948

532-5643 (English)

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 5:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

846-3204 (espanol)

Capacity: 96

Ages: 2 wks-5 yrs

Self-Description: Gridley Migrant Children's Center is a bilingual Spanish/English center providing full-day care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Center care includes educational, health, nutrition, and social services. Migrant agricultural workers receive additional services as needed. Parents are welcome to participate. The program is free to eligible families (call for eligibility requirements).

GRIDLEY STATE PRESCHOOL

1567 Booth Dr. Gridley, CA 95948

532-5643 (English)

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

846-3204 (espanol)

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Gridley State Preschool is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition, and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Bald Rock Children's Center, Oakdale Heights Children's Center and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

HEAD START GRIDLEY

Administration Office

755 Bird St. Oroville, CA 95965

538-7719

Days/Hours: Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Class hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:00-11:30 A.M. & 12:30-4:00 P.M.

Capacity: Varies

Ages: 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: See Head Start under Chico.

LA ESCUELITA

1567 Booth Dr. Gridley, CA 95948

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 5:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

532-5643 (English)

846-3204 (espanol)

Capacity: 16

Ages: 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: The "little school" in Gridley provides full day services for toddlers and preschoolers by caring, trained, bi-lingual (English/Spanish) early childhood educators. Your child will learn new skills. This program is FREE for most low-income or middle-income families (call for more information).

OROVILLE

APPLES AND BANANAS

2038 W. Lincoln St. Oroville, CA 95965

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

534-3144

Capacity: 32

Ages: 0-5 yrs

Self-Description: Not available

BARTON'S NURSERY SCHOOL AND INFANT CENTER

645 Pomona Ave. Oroville, CA. 95969

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

533-0573

Capacity: 61

Ages: 0-11 yrs

Self-Description: Preschool program, AM and PM snacks, hot lunch, after school programs and transportation for some of the schools.

BERRY CREEK CHILDREN'S CENTER

286 Rockefeller Rd. Berry Creek, CA 95916

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:20 -11:30 A.M.

532-5643

Capacity: 24

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Berry Creek Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition, and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Oakdale Heights Children's Center and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville, and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

BUTTE COLLEGE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

3536 Butte Campus Dr. Oroville, CA 95965

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

895-2865

Capacity: 112

Ages: 6 wks-5 yrs

Self-Description: The Butte College CDC is a nationally accredited child development program, serving children six weeks to five years of age. The center is open to parents attending Butte College, staff, and to the community. The center is a college lab for students who are seeking a degree in Early Childhood Education. This high quality, low cost program provides young children the opportunity to learn and grow under the guidance of master teachers.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S CENTER

10 Concordia Lane Oroville, CA. 95966

534-7082

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 60

Ages: 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: Calvary Lutheran Children's Center is a non-profit ministry of Calvary Lutheran Church. We provide a Christian program for children 2-12 years of age. We have full and half day programs, with a wide variety of learning experiences. Among the experiences we offer children is our visitation program at Country Crest's extended care facility. School age transportation is available.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST STATE PRESCHOOL

45 Acacia Oroville, CA. 95965

533-7321

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday (Aug - May)
8:15 A.M.-11:15 A.M. or 12:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 96

Ages: 3-5 yrs

Self-Description: Early childhood education program for children, ages 3 to 5. Lunch and snack are served in morning and afternoon.

HEAD START OROVILLE

Administration Office: 1755 Bird St. Oroville, Ca 95965

538-7719

Days/Hours: Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
Classroom Hours: Tuesday-Friday
8:00 A.M.-11:30 P.M. & 12:30 P.M.- 4:00 P.M.

Capacity: Varies

Ages: 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: See Head Start listed under Chico.

OAKDALE HEIGHTS CHILDREN'S CENTER

2255 Las Plumas Ave. Oroville, CA 95965

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-11:00 A.M. & 12:00-3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Oakdale Heights Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Bald Rock Children's Center, and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville; and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

OROVILLE GYMNASTICS CHILDREN'S LEARNING CENTER

1875 Feather River Blvd. Oroville, CA, 95965

533-1043

Days/Hours: Monday – Friday, 6:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 200

Ages: 1.5-12 yrs

Self-Description: Toddler Program 18 months–3 years. Children's learning center, ages 2.5-5, preschool program 7:00 A.M.- 12:00 P.M. Pre-K program 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Kid's Club for ages 6 through 12 years, before and after school care for kindergarten - 6th grade.

PALERMO CHILDREN'S CENTER

5737 Autrey Lane Oroville, CA. 95968

533-1560

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 25

Ages: 3-9.11 yrs

Self-Description: No cost, low cost preschool program in the morning, extends to school age care in afternoon. Open year round. Services are for parents who are working or going to school.

PALERMO STATE PRESCHOOL

7350 Bulldog Way Palermo, CA, 95968

533-4730

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 100

Ages: 3-4.9 yrs

Self-Description: Preschool program is free to low-income families. Kindergarten readiness curriculum, snacks and lunches. Bus transportation is available for children in the district.

POPLAR CHILDREN'S CENTER

2075 20th St. Oroville, CA 95965

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:15 -11:15 A.M. & 12:00 -3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yr

Self-Description: Poplar Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Bald Rock Children's Center and Oakdale Heights Children's Center in Oroville and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs throughout the county.*

SMALL FOLKS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

150 Oroview Dr. Oroville, CA 95965

532-0682

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:45 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 24

Ages: 2.5-6 yrs

Self-Description: Our Montessori program is an approach to education that emphasizes the potential of young children and allows their development to unfold by means of a prepared environment, uniquely designed materials and specially trained teachers. The structure allows the children the opportunity for sensory exploration of a wide range of interesting activities.

SMALL WORLD CHILD CARE & LEARNING CENTER

1295 Pomona Ave. Oroville, CA 95965

533-0188

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 27

Ages: 2-6 yrs

Self-Description: Full time and part time child care in a fun learning environment. All meals included, potty training offered as well. Website available at www.oroillechildcare.com

SONSHINE ACRES

533-7794

5597 Lower Wyandotte Rd. Oroville, CA 95966

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday 6:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 43

Ages: 2-5 yrs.

Self-Description: Child care center located in a converted home, with home-cooked meals, and very little down time. We teach Zoo Phonics. Physical fitness is a priority.

SOUTH OROVILLE CHILDREN'S CENTER

532-5643

2959 Lower Wyandotte Oroville, CA 95966

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 20

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: South Oroville Children's Center is a partnership between Butte County Office of Education and Head Start, so children benefit from the expertise of two programs. Preschoolers learn new skills in a educational environment that will prepare them for learning and socializing in Kindergarten. Parents are also given support through parent education and participation in center activities. This state-endorsed program is FREE for most low to middle income families (call for eligibility details). *See Mariposa Children's Center in Chico and Table Mountain Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in other towns.*

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL

534-9417

1380 Bird St. Oroville, CA 95965

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 22

Ages: 2.6-6 yrs

Self-Description: Small nurturing atmosphere, Catholic Christian values, hands-on learning, kindergarten readiness, nutritious snacks, monthly field trips, open year round, competent, caring staff.

TABLE MOUTAIN CHILDREN'S CENTER

532-5643

1650 Robinson St. Oroville, CA 95965

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 20

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Table Mountain Children's Center is a partnership between Butte County Office of Education and Head Start, so children benefit from the expertise of two programs. Preschoolers learn new skills in an educational environment that will prepare them for learning and socializing in Kindergarten. Parents are also given support through parent education and participation in center activities. This state-endorsed program is FREE for most low to middle income families (call for eligibility details). *See Mariposa Children's Center in Chico and South Oroville Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in other towns.*

PARADISE/MAGALIA

CEDARWOOD CHILDREN'S CENTER

6400 Columbine Rd. Magalia, CA 95954

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 -11:00 A.M. & 12:00 -3:00 P.M.

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Self-Description: Cedarwood Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley and Bald Rock Children's Center, Oakdale Heights Children's Center and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in Butte County.*

FIRST STEPS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

6500 Clark Rd. Paradise, CA. 95969

877-3240

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 50

Ages: 2.5-6 yrs

Self-Description: Our desire is to serve our community by providing educational experiences for young children, in a nurturing environment of Christian love. We plan for individual, small and large group activities. We provide experiences in art, language, music, cooking, large and small motor skills, math, science and social science.

HEAD START PARADISE

Administration Office: 1755 Bird St. Oroville, CA 95965

538-7719

Days/Hours: Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

891-2807

Class Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-11:30 P.M. & 12:30 P.M.-4:00 P.M.

Capacity: Varies **Ages:** 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: See Head Start under Chico.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH DAY CARE

6404 Pentz Rd. Paradise, CA. 95969

877-7321

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 72

Ages: 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: Morning preschool program, morning pre-kindergarten program, before and after school care, day care center. The center's purpose is to provide an atmosphere that encourages religious, social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth and development of the child as a whole. The center's curriculum includes religious training, language arts, math, science, arts and crafts.

PARADISE PRESCHOOL/ UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6722 Clark Rd. Paradise, CA. 95969

877-8155

Days/Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 4 year olds
Tuesday and Thursday for 3 year olds
9:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M.
Monday-Friday, 11:20 A.M.-3:00 P.M., Kindergarten Readiness Program

Capacity: 44

Ages: 3-5 yrs

Self-Description: Program is for 3, 4 and 5-year olds with credentialed teachers on staff. The K-Ready class is a bonus year for those students who need a little more time before entering Kindergarten. No cost if child is 5 years old by December 2 of that year.

PEE WEE PRESCHOOL

7196 Skyway Paradise, CA. 95969

877-0633

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 83

Ages: 2-12 yrs

Self-Description: Special program for 2 yr olds with a 1/10 adult/child ratio. Preschool program includes creative art, language, literature, math and science. Special pre-K program for kindergarten readiness, latch key program includes field trips.

ST. THOMAS MORE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

771 Elliott Rd. Paradise, CA, 95969

877-1485

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Capacity: 45

Ages: 6 wks-12 yrs

Self-Description: Not available.

VISTA CHILDREN'S CENTER

581 Pearson Rd. Paradise, CA 95969

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Capacity: 20

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Vista Children's Center is located across the street from Paradise Elementary School and provides preschool services in a safe, caring environment. We specialize in educational play, while making new friends and finding positive role models. Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided. This high-quality, state-endorsed center is free to most low to middle income families (call for eligibility requirements). *See Oak Street Children's Center in Chico and Hilltop Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in Butte County.*

Valley Oak Children's Services

Resource & Referral
895-3572 or 800-345-8627



287 Rio Lindo Avenue
Chico, CA 95926

SUBSIDIZED CARE IN BUTTE COUNTY

CHICO

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS CHILDREN'S CENTER

California State University, Chico, CA 95929

898-5865

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:45 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 58

Ages: 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: The children of CSU, Chico students are priority. Meals and snacks are offered. Center goals are to provide a safe, quality child care center and to offer an environment which meets the individual needs of kids socially, cognitively, emotionally and physically.

CHICO COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTER EATON

1270 Eaton Rd, Chico, CA 95926

343-9349

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1693 Chico, CA 95927

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 30

Ages: 2-5 yrs

Self-Description: Offers full time child care and development services with an emphasis on meeting children's complete developmental needs. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack are provided. Parent involvement and education, in addition to referrals to community services and agencies, are provided to meet whole family needs. Fees are subsidized determined by family size and income.

CHICO COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTER ELM

2218 Elm St. Chico, CA 95928

891-5363

INFANT TODDLER AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 42

Ages: 6 mths-5 yrs

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 11:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Holidays/Summer Hours: 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 24

Ages: 5-10 yrs

Self-Description: Programs offer individualized, loving care, well-rounded developmental programs and nutritious meals. Fee is on a sliding scale based on income and family size. The After School Program operates the full year, providing lunch and snacks on school days, and four meals on vacation days. Program emphasis is on community awareness, recreational activities, arts and crafts and tutorial services.

CIRCLES CHILDREN CENTER

2345 Fair St. Chico, CA 95928

532-5643**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:00 -11:00 A.M. & 12:00 -3:00 P.M.**Capacity:** 24 morning & 24 afternoon**Ages:** 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Circles Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Bald Rock Children's Center, Oakdale Heights Children's Center and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

HEAD START CHICO

Administration Office: 1755 Bird St. Oroville, Ca 95965

538-7719**Days/Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M.**891-2807**

Classroom Hours: Tuesday-Friday

8:00 A.M.-11:30 P.M. & 12:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Capacity: Varies**Ages:** 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: Head Start is a child enrichment program serving eligible families with preschool children. Families in Chico, Paradise, Oroville, Gridley and Spring Valley may participate in either center based or home-based programs. Head Start provides a comprehensive curriculum, which includes education, health services, parental involvement, social services and special needs.

MARIPOSA CHILDREN'S CENTER

2603 Mariposa Chico, CA 95926

532-5643**Days/Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.**Capacity:** 20**Ages:** 2.9 yrs - 5 yrs

Self-Description: Mariposa Children's Center is a partnership between Butte County Office of Education and Head Start, so children benefit from the expertise of two programs! Preschoolers learn new skills in an educational environment that will prepare them for learning and socializing in Kindergarten. Parents are also given support through parent education and participation in center activities. This state-endorsed program is FREE for most low to middle income families (call for eligibility details). *See Table Mountain Children's Center and South Oroville Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in Oroville*

MIGRANT HEAD START

564 Rio Lindo Ave. #209, Chico, CA 95926-Administration Office

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.**ADMIN: 895-3588****Capacity:** 19 Infant/Toddlers**Ages:** 6 mths-5 yrs

30 Preschoolers

Self-Description: Geared to serve the children of migrant farm working families in the area. Parent involvement, health, nutrition and education are stressed. Emphasis is on bilingual, multi-cultural child development.

OAK STREET CHILDREN'S CENTER

115 Oak St. Chico, CA 95928

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-4:00P.M.

Capacity: 38

Ages: 2-5 yrs old

Self-Description: Oak Street Children's Center is located across the street from Rosedale Elementary School, and provides child care and preschool services in a safe, caring environment. We specialize in educational play, while making new friends and finding positive role models. Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided. This high-quality, state-endorsed center is free to most low to middle income families (call for eligibility requirements). *See Hilltop Children's Center in Oroville and Vista Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County*

GRIDLEY

GRIDLEY MIGRANT CHILDREN'S CENTER

1567 Booth Dr. Gridley, CA 95948

532-5643 (English)

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday 5:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

846-3204 (espanol)

Capacity: 96

Ages: 2 wks-5 yrs

Self-Description: Gridley Migrant Children's Center is a bilingual Spanish/English center providing full-day care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Center care includes educational, health, nutrition, and social services. Migrant agricultural workers receive additional services as needed. Parents are welcome to participate. The program is free to eligible families (call for eligibility requirements).

GRIDLEY STATE PRESCHOOL

1567 Booth Dr. Gridley, CA 95948

532-5643 (English)

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

846-3204 (espanol)

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Gridley State Preschool is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition, and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Bald Rock Children's Center, Oakdale Heights Children's Center and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

HEAD START GRIDLEY

Administration Office

538-7719

755 Bird St. Oroville, Ca 95965

Days/Hours: Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00P.M.

Class hours: Tuesday-Friday 8:00 A.M.-11:30 P.M. & 12:30 P.M.-4:00 P.M.

Capacity: Varies

Ages: 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: See Head Start under Chico.

LA ESCUELITA

1567 Booth Dr. Gridley, CA 95948

846-3204

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 6:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Capacity: 13 Season: Year Round

Ages: 2-5 yrs

Self-Description The "little school" provides a full day program for toddlers and preschoolers, offered by qualified professionals. Children's growth and progress in social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development are supported through this high quality children's program. This bi-lingual, cross-cultural program supports children's needs and promotes language and independence development, preparing children to enter school. The program is free to eligible families and a sliding fee may apply based on income level.

OROVILLE

BERRY CREEK CHILDREN'S CENTER

286 Rockefeller Rd. Berry Creek, CA 95916

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:20 A.M -11:30 A.M.

Capacity: 24

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Berry Creek Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition, and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Oakdale Heights Children's Center, and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST STATE PRESCHOOL

45 Acacia Oroville, CA. 95965

533-7321

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday (Sept-June)
8:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M. or 12:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 48

Ages: 3-5 yrs

Self-Description: Early childhood education program for children, ages 3-5. Lunch and snack are served in the morning and afternoon.

HEAD START OROVILLE

Administration Office: 1755 Bird St. Oroville, Ca 95965

538-7719

Days/Hours: Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
Classroom Hours: Tuesday-Friday
8:00 A.M.-11:30 P.M. & 12:30 P.M.-4:00 P.M.

Capacity: Varies

Ages: 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: Head Start is a child enrichment program serving eligible families with preschool children. Families in Chico, Paradise, Oroville, Gridley and Spring Valley may participate in either center based or home-based programs. Head Start provides a comprehensive curriculum, which includes education, health services, parental involvement, social services and special needs.

OAKDALE HEIGHTS CHILDREN'S CENTER

2255 Las Plumas Ave. Oroville, CA 95966

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-11:00 A.M. & 12:00-3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Oakdale Heights Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Bald Rock Children's Center, and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville; and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs in Butte County.*

PALERMO CHILDREN'S CENTER

5737 Autrey Lane Oroville, CA. 95966

533-1560

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:40 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 25

Ages: 3-9.11 yrs

Self-Description: No cost, low cost preschool program in the morning, extends to school age care in afternoon. Open year round. Services are for parents who are working or going to school. Agency referrals are also accepted.

PALERMO STATE PRESCHOOL

7350 Bulldog Way, Palermo, CA, 95968

533-4730

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Capacity: 100

Ages: 3-4.9 yrs

Self-Description: Not available.

POPLAR CHILDREN'S CENTER

2075 20th St. Oroville, CA 95965

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:15 -11:15 A.M. & 12:00 -3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Poplar Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley; Bald Rock Children's Center, and Oakdale Heights Children's Center in Oroville and Cedarwood Children's Center in Paradise for similar programs throughout the county.*

SOUTH OROVILLE CHILDREN'S CENTER

2959 Lower Wyandotte Oroville, CA 95966

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Capacity: 20

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: South Oroville Children's Center is a partnership between Butte County Office of Education and Head Start, so children benefit from the expertise of two programs. Preschoolers learn new skills in a educational environment that will prepare them for learning and socializing in Kindergarten. Parents are also given support through parent education and participation in center activities. This state-endorsed program is FREE for most low to middle income families (call for eligibility details). *See Mariposa Children's Center in Chico and Table Mountain Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in other towns.*

TABLE MOUNTAIN CHILDREN'S CENTER

1650 Robinson Street Oroville, CA 95965

532-5643

Days/Hours: 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M. Monday-Friday

Capacity: 20

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Table Mountain Children's Center is a partnership between Butte County Office of Education and Head Start, so children benefit from the expertise of two programs. Preschoolers learn new skills in an educational environment that will prepare them for learning and socializing in Kindergarten. Parents are also given support through parent education and participation in center activities. This state-endorsed program is FREE for most low to middle income families (call for eligibility details). *See Mariposa Children's Center in Chico and South Oroville Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in other towns.*

PARADISE

CEDARWOOD CHILDREN'S CENTER

6400 Columbine Rd., Magalia, CA 95954

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 -11:00 A.M. & 12:00 -3:00 P.M.

Capacity: 24 morning & 24 afternoon

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Cedarwood Children's Center is a preschool with qualified early childhood educators which promotes learning, school readiness, nutrition and physical play activities. Preschool services are offered at no cost through the State Preschool Program for income eligible families (call for eligibility information). *See Circles Children's Center in Chico; Gridley State Preschool in Gridley and Bald Rock Children's Center, Oakdale Heights Children's Center and Poplar Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in Butte County.*

HEAD START PARADISE

Administration Office

1755 Bird St. Oroville, CA 95965

538-7719

Days/Hours: Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

891-2807

Classroom Hours: Tuesday-Friday

8:00 A.M.-11:30 P.M. & 12:30 P.M.-4:00 P.M.

Capacity: Varies

Ages: 3-4 yrs

Self-Description: See Chico Head Start.

VISTA CHILDREN'S CENTER

581 Pearson Rd. Paradise, CA 95969

532-5643

Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Capacity: 20

Ages: 2.9-5 yrs

Self-Description: Vista Children's Center is located across the street from Paradise Elementary School and provides preschool services in a safe, caring environment. We specialize in educational play, while making new friends and finding positive role models. Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided. This high-quality, state-endorsed center is free to most low to middle income families (call for eligibility requirements). *See Oak Street Children's Center in Chico and Hilltop Children's Center in Oroville for similar programs in Butte County.*

CHOOSING CHILD CARE

5 steps to finding care

BE INFORMED

- Contact your local Resource and Referral agency. (Listed in the Yellow Pages under Child Care Consultant.)
- Contact your regional state DSS office which licenses child care (complaint information).
- Ask relatives, friends, and neighbors.
- Check the newspaper and community bulletin boards.
- Check the Yellow Pages.

Once you have a list of possible choices, set up an interview with the provider. At the interview, **Look, Count, Ask and Listen.**

LOOK

- Is the facility safe for children?
- Is it comfortable and clean?
- Is there a quiet place for naps?
- Does the provider talk and cuddle the children?
- Is there a variety of play space and toys?
- Is there a sanitary diaper changing area?
- Is the kitchen clean and sanitary?
- How do the children interact with each other?

COUNT

- Are there the correct number of adults per children?
- How many infants are in care?
- Are you comfortable with the child/adult ratio?

ASK

- What is your experience and/or education in child care?
- What is your child rearing philosophy?
- What kinds of things do you do to help a new child adjust?
- What do you do when a child cries?
- How would you react if you saw my child bite another?
- How long have you been doing child care?
- Can I visit my child whenever I want?
- What is your plan for an emergency?
- What do you charge and what does that include?
- Do you have a contract?

LISTEN

- To the answers that are given (take notes).
- To the noise level of the room.
- For joyful noise from the children.
- For a respectful attitude towards the kids.
- To the feelings you have.
- To any concerns you might have.
- To the concerns your child might have.

PARENT'S CHECKLIST

Have you discussed:

- How an illness will be handled?
- What you are responsible for?
- How much the provider charges?
- Does the provider have an open-door policy?
- Who to reach in an emergency?
- Does the facility comply with licensing regulations?
- Emergency evacuation plans?
- What the child's day will be like?
- Names of other parents using care?
- Other references?
- Any special needs of your child?
- For complaint information about the facility you have chosen, call Community Care Licensing at 530-895-5033.

For more information on Choosing Child Care
Call

Valley Oak Children Services
Resource and Referral Program

At
530-895-3572 or 800-345-8627

CHOOSING CHILD CARE

Types of Care

IN HOME CARE

Possible Advantages:	Potential Concerns:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Familiar surroundings to the child/children.• Less risk of illness than other forms of care.• Lower provider/child ratio.• Greater control of environment maintained by parent.• Provider can be cleared by Trustline Registry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficult to determine a provider's competence.• Difficult to know what is happening in a parent's absence.• Loss of some privacy.• Possible isolation of provider.

FAMILY CHILD CARE

Child care is provided in the home of the caregiver. California requires anyone providing care for the children from more than one family to be licensed. The provider's own children under the age of 10 count into the capacity whenever they are in the home. The home will be licensed in one of the following categories:

COUNT

Small Family Child Care Home: six children, ages 0-12, no more than three of whom may be infants. (An infant is a child under 2 years of age.)

Small Family Child Care Home: eight children, ages 0-12. When eight children are present, two children must be over 6 years old and only two children may be infants.

Large Family Child Care Home: twelve children, ages 0-12. No more than four children may be infants. An aide must be present.

Large Family Child Care Home: fourteen children, ages 0-12. When fourteen children are present, two children must be over 6 years old, and only three children may be infants. An aide must be present.

Exempt Family Child Care: care that is provided in the caregiver's home to children from one other family.

Possible Advantages:	Potential Concerns:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting is more home-like than a center.• Parents and children benefit from sense of "extended family".• Opportunities for multi-aged interaction.• Children can stay with the same provider for years.• May be flexible in caring for children with minor illness.• May accommodate long or unusual hours.• Possibility of sharing similar life style.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children are more exposed to illness than in own home.• Provider usually works alone.• Long hours/isolation can create provider fatigue.• Handling emergencies can be difficult.• Provider illness and family emergency can cause problems.• By law, assistant can be as young as 14 years old but may not be left alone until 18 years old.

CENTER CARE

Centers provide care for a number of children in a group setting outside a home. Child care centers are required to be licensed by the Department of Social Services.

COUNT

One adult may care for as many as four infants under 2 years of age. One adult may care for twelve children 3 to 5.

Possible Advantages:	Potential Concerns:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environment and staff responsibilities are focused on child care.• Teamwork can promote a positive atmosphere.• Staff emergencies do not affect center's hours.• A written account of individual activities may be provided.• CPR & First Aid Training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exposure to a large number of people increases the risk of illness.• May have a less home-like atmosphere.• May require more conformity and routine than home care.• Changing shifts may affect relationships between child and primary care provider.• Possible communication gap due to multiple providers.

