

	Considerations	What to look for . . .
Center Based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential waiting list • Extremely reliable • Resources available for learning & play • Levels of experience can differ between centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed by state • Low child-to-teacher ratio • Qualified, consistent staff • Resources, programs offered • Safe, clean equipment • Good relationships between parents & staff • Comfort of your child in the environment and with the care provider
Nanny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of care tailored to child's needs • Increased one-on-one time • Expense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong references • Similar childcare philosophy • Flexible schedule • Education background • Reliable
Home Based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home-like environment • Flexibility in care arrangements • Family-style trips/outings • Lack of qualified back up in emergency or caregiver illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing, accreditation, up-to-date qualifications • Strong references • Low child-to-caregiver ratio • Safe, clean home environment • Good relationships between parents & staff • Comfort of your child in the environment
Friends & Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost-savings • Convenient & flexible • Bonding time between child and caregiver • Potentially different child-rearing philosophies • Potential lack of training, background checks, credentials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual with whom parents can have healthy, open dialogue in case problems arise • Reliability, consistency • Mutual understanding of expectations of caregiver • Comfort of your child with the given individual

