## For information about licensed child care centers...

# Call or write the Licensing Section in the regional office serving your county:

### **NORTHEASTERN REGION**

200 N Jefferson Suite 411 Green Bay WI 54301 920-448-5312 Fax 920-448-5306

Counties: Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Shawano, Sheboygan, Washington, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago

### **NORTHERN REGION**

2187 N Stevens St Suite C Rhinelander WI 54501 715-365-2500 Fax 715-365-2517

Counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, Wood

### **SOUTHEASTERN REGION**

141 NW Barstow St Room 104 Waukesha WI 53188-3789 262-521-5100 Fax 262-521-5314

Counties: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Waukesha

### **SOUTHERN REGION**

1 W Wilson St; PO Box 8947 Madison WI 53708 608-266-2900 Fax 608-261-7824

Counties: Adams, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, LaFayette, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Walworth

### **WESTERN REGION**

610 Gibson St Suite 2 Eau Claire WI 54701-3696 715-836-2185 Fax 715-836-2516

Counties: Barron, Buffalo, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, LaCrosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Rusk, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon, Washburn



To order additional copies of this brochure, contact the Child Care Information Center (CCIC) at 1-800-362-7353.

State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Reference and Loan Library, 2109 South Stoughton Road, Madison, WI 53716



Department of Workforce Development

Division of Family Supports, Child Care Section P.O. Box 7935, Madison, WI 53707-7935

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For civil rights questions call (608) 266-6889 or (866) 864-4585 TTY (Toll Free).

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# "I'll be back for you."

# **Making Separation Easier**



# **Make Separation Easier**

When you place your child in child care, it may be the first time you and your child are separated on a regular basis.

To help you both feel more secure and at ease with the separation and the child care arrangement, here are a few suggestions:

- Visit the child care setting, whether it is a center or a family child care home, before you make a definite decision.
- Talk to your child about the home or center, the other children, the toys, the things they may do.
- Spend time with your child in the child care setting to ease the strangeness. Make separation as gradual as possible.
- Tell the adult in charge about any allergies, physical problems, or any special eating, napping, or toileting habits your child may have.

# **Bring a Piece of Home**

Children feel better about separation if they can bring a piece of home with them.

- A favorite blanket, teddy bear, doll or special toy can be comforting.
- A picture of mom or dad.
- A picture of a clock showing the time "I'll be back for you".
- Mom's or dad's work telephone number tucked into the child's pocket and another copy given to the caregiver.

# **Allow Time for Goodbyes**

Allow plenty of time for "goodbyes" and "hellos". It makes separating a little easier.

- Children need time to say "goodbye" and a chance to get involved in an activity at the child care setting before you leave.
- They also need time to say "goodbye" to their playmates and things when they leave the child care setting.
- Children need to know the days and times they will be taken to the child care arrangement and that they will be picked up on time.

All children react differently to separation, depending upon their ages and experiences. The older the child, usually the more she or he is able to remember and understand the words, "I'll be back for you".

You and the caregiver can work together to make separation a positive experience for your child. If your child can learn to trust that child care is not abandonment, but a pleasant, comfortable arrangement, then the next parting your child will face will be more understandable and easier to accept.



To get information about licensed child care centers in your region, turn page.