



## Your Family/Home Child Care *An Environment Checklist*

Review your home child care environment and rate the following areas indicating **S** for Satisfactory, **N** for Needs Improvement, and **NI** for Needs IMMEDIATE Improvement. Remember, you're not looking at how much space you have but how well you use it!

### The arrival and entrance area:

- adequate parking for parents
- safe, well-lit entrance to home (e.g. snow cleared, path to door and steps in good repair)
- entrance area is warm and welcoming
- adequate space for adults and children
- washable door mat
- place for shoes and boots
- place for the children's outdoor clothes
- place for each child's personal belongings
- bulletin board for menu, parent info, pictures, etc.

### The eating area:

- is cheerful and comfortable
- table and chairs
- any required booster seats, high chairs/infant chairs
- child-friendly dishes, cutlery and cups
- washable table, chairs and floor surface
- convenient sink

### The personal care area:

- is functional and bright
- adequate space for adult and child(ren)
- toilet, potty seat or chair
- sink
- soap dispenser
- non-slip stool for access to sink
- shelves for supplies
- cleaning supplies (stored out of reach)
- hooks/hangers/shelves for children's personal care supplies (face cloths, towels, toothbrushes, combs, etc.)
- accessible diapering facilities (change table, necessary supplies/equipment)

### The sleeping area:

- is quiet and pleasant
- comfortable mats, cots, or beds
- individual bedding
- cribs or playpens for infants/toddlers
- window coverings to reduce brightness

### Play areas:

- are bright, cheerful and provide adequate space for intended use
- child-sized table and chairs
- adequate and accessible shelving and storage for toys, books, materials and equipment
- shelves, tables or other furniture used to divide and organize areas for different kinds of play
- comfortable rugs where appropriate
- washable floors where appropriate
- children's artwork, posters and decorations

### Space, equipment and supplies for:

- creative play
- block/building play
- manipulative/cognitive play
- dramatic play
- language/reading activities
- active play (indoors and outdoors)

### Other areas:

Immediate Improvement: \_\_\_\_\_

Satisfactory: \_\_\_\_\_

Needs Improvement: \_\_\_\_\_