

Development & Environment

Do you provide educational activities?

Look for age-appropriate, play-based learning opportunities.

What is your screen time policy?

Make sure expectations match your family's preferences.

How do you clean and sanitize?

Regular sanitation helps reduce the spread of illness.

How are naps handled?

Ask about nap schedules and sleeping arrangements.

How do you manage conflicts between children?

Look for positive guidance and age-appropriate conflict resolution.

What holidays are celebrated?

Ask how cultural and seasonal celebrations are incorporated.



Need Help Finding Childcare?

Family Connections MT - Havre

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Serving Valley County and surrounding communities.



FMDH
PUBLIC HEALTH

Choosing Quality Childcare

Finding the right childcare provider is one of the most important decisions you'll make.

Use this guide to help evaluate providers and find a safe, nurturing environment where your child can grow and thrive.



Safety & Licensing

Is the provider licensed?

Licensed providers receive inspections, training, and ongoing support to maintain state standards.

Are staff screened and trained?

Ask about background checks, certifications, and ongoing professional development.

What is the staff-to-child ratio?

Smaller ratios generally mean more individualized attention.

How are illnesses and injuries handled?

Understand notification procedures and illness exclusion policies.

How is the space childproofed?

Safety measures should be in place throughout.

Are immunizations required?

Ask about vaccination requirements and how health concerns are managed.



Daily Care & Learning

What is your approach to discipline?

Choose a provider whose methods align with your family value's.

How do you comfort upset children?

Responsive, compassionate caregivers are essential.

What does a typical day look like?

Ask about routines, activities, meals, and rest times.

Are meals and snacks provided?

Learn what is offered and whether the program participates in CACFP.
(Child and Adult Care Food Program)

How much outdoor play do children receive?

Regular outdoor activity supports healthy development.

Can parents visit?

Understand the provider's visitation policies and communication practices.

Communication & Family Policies

How do you communicate with parents?

Find out how updates, photos, and concerns are shared.

What happens if I'm late picking up my child?

Ask about fees and authorized pickup procedures.

What are your policies for illness, vacations, and closures?

Understand payment expectations and substitute caregiver plans.

Do you help with potty training?

Consistency between home and childcare can make training easier.

