



FAMILY-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS



STRATEGIES

1. Have an open-door policy. Parents should be welcome and encouraged to visit anytime.
2. Display information about teachers and photos of them.
3. Display photos of children/families in the classroom and center.
4. Provide adult seating in the classroom for families.
5. Families should be encouraged to participate in a variety of ways (attend a program or event, have lunch with their child, volunteer in the classroom, etc.)
6. Provides families with opportunities to use their knowledge, skills and talents in the classroom and throughout the program.
7. Adopt policies that put family needs first.
8. Embrace diversity of the families you serve.
9. Respond to family needs.
10. Avoid making families feel vulnerable or inadequate.
11. Establish ties of trust.
12. Ask parents for information about their child and the child's interests to help plan daily activities.
13. Provide information on community activities or information on support services.
14. Create occasional social activities for center staff and families.
15. Use staff-experiences to "bring family-friendly elements to life."

