

The Quality Rating

Each participating center displays its Quality Counts Madera rating to indicate to parents and families, the center's commitment to quality. Each star in the rating system represents an increased level of quality.



How it works

Quality Counts Madera is designed to evaluate programs based on scientific early childhood research.

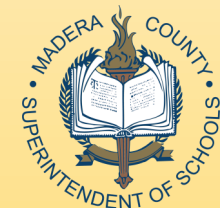
Participating centers are evaluated by a team of early learning professionals based on:

- Environmental structure
- Ratio/ group size
- Quality Staff Development
- Curriculum
- Parent/Family involvement

One of the primary goals of Quality Counts Madera is to help parents become more aware of what constitutes high quality and what to look for when seeking an early childhood program for their child. Ask your provider if they are participating with Quality Counts Madera.



Operated by
Madera County Superintendent of Schools



For help in locating quality care in Madera County or for more information on rated sites please contact:

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What is Quality?

Every parent and family wants the best education for their child. A quality child care provider:

- Understands that learning begins at birth
- Offers lots of activities for children to learn
- Provides a safe and welcoming environment.
- Engages children in fun, “hands-on” experiences.
- Involves parents and families as their child’s first teacher.

Why is quality child care important?

Children who attend high quality child care programs are better prepared for school, have higher achievements in math and reading, are less likely to be retained, and more likely to graduate from high school and attend a 4 year college or university.

(National Institute of Child Health & Human Development, 1998; Reynolds, 1999, Campbell)



Why should I look for a *Quality Counts Madera* program to enroll my child?

Participants in Quality Counts Madera are:

- Dedicated to offering the best in quality child care
- Committed to program improvement
- Involved in on-going evaluation of their program
- Trained in the best early childhood education practices

