



# Collaborative of Muskegon County

Preschool and Early Care

*To Find Child Care click on [Connect](#)*



**To Find a Pre-school for your Child Call ...**

Your Local School District

[Head Start of Muskegon/Oceana County](#)  
(231) 767-8300

## Quality Child Care

Infants and toddlers can spend more hours in child care than their parents do at work. This time is vital to the child's early development. Research has shown that children who receive high-quality child care have stronger learning, language, and social skills when they enter school than those children who did not receive these services.

Follow the links below to learn more about Quality Child Care.

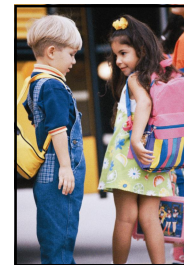
[Zero to Three: Choosing Quality Child Care](#)

[Matching Your Infant or Toddler's Style to the Right Day Care](#)

[Questions Preschool Directors Wish Parents Would Ask—Chesapeake Family & NAECY](#)



## Why should you send your child to Preschool?



Studies show that children who attend a good preschool are more successful in life. Preschool children learn reading and math faster than their peers and are more successful in elementary school with fewer retained grades. They have a higher rate of high school graduation and college success. They have better job security and higher wages and are more likely to be home owners, and have better health.

**Whoa! How can one year of preschool make such a difference?** Preschool is more than playing and learning ABCs. A good preschool teaches children precious skills about learning itself. These "executive functions" learned at ages 3 and 4 last a lifetime and help that child make good decisions and develop good social skills that will make them a successful adult.

**What are these "executive" functions?** A child who has learned these skills can

- ¿ resist impulses and consider choices
- ¿ follow rules and work well in groups
- ¿ evaluate ideas and reflect on own work
- ¿ keep track of time keep
- ¿ track of more than one thing at once
- ¿ apply past knowledge in decision making
- ¿ evaluate ideas
- ¿ change their minds and make mid-course corrections while thinking, reading and writing
- ¿ finish work on time
- ¿ ask for help

These executive function skills allow children to plan and finish work on time, ask for help when needed, and form good working relationships.

**Put all this together and it is the very definition of a successful student and a successful adult.**

***"All children will enter kindergarten safe, healthy, and eager to succeed in school and in life."***