

TEN QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU CHOOSE A SUMMER PROGRAM

WRITTEN POLICIES

Does the program have written policies to protect the safety of children?

ORGANIZATION

Is the program organized? Ask if activities usually begin and end on schedule. Does the staff seem to be rushed or calm?



4

1

2

PROFESSIONALISM

Are the staff trained to work with children?

INTERACTION

Does the summer camp staff work and play well with the children? Spend a little time watching how the staff members interact with the children.



COMMUNICATION

Does the staff regularly tell parents what is going on in the program?



BEHAVIOR

Do the children in the program seem happy? Are they playing together peacefully, or are they fighting and arguing with each other?



RULES

How does the staff handle conflicts, arguments, disagreements or misunderstandings among the children? Are there clear rules for behavior?



9

10

ACTIVITIES

Are there a range of engaging activities for children to do or is the program "one size fits all"?

INTEREST

Are the youth in the program taking part in activities? Are they interested ... or are they bored? Do they seem to be enjoying the activity?

EDUCATION

Are the children attending the summer camp offered learning experiences (art, sports, music, cooking, etc.)?



The Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County provides **Children's Services Council** Beach County Youth Services Department provides support for Direct Time's Middle School Out-of-School Time Initiative.

