



Childcare Network

**Educating Little Ones
to Learn, Live, and Play**

c/o Hyde Park Neighborhood Club
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Chicago, IL 60615
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www.babyphd.com

General Information

The Baby Ph.D. Childcare Network includes nannies, home-based daycares, a daycare center, and a childcare resource center and lending library. Network members* receive a variety of support for childcare-related needs and have full access to programs and activities sponsored by our resource center.

Resource Center

The Baby Ph.D. Resource Center is located at the Hyde Park Neighborhood Club. It houses a childcare lending library, professional development resources for childcare providers, and a *centralized childcare intake and referral* for parents of young children 0-3.** Referrals are available for in-home childcare, center-based care, private nanny care, and nanny-share. Substitute care and babysitter referrals are also available on a limited basis.

Childcare Providers

Childcare providers within the Baby Ph.D. Network receive professional support and mentoring in all aspects of home-based childcare. They are committed to providing you and your children with loving, reliable, high quality in-home and center-based childcare. Member locations are scattered across North Kenwood, Central Hyde Park, and Woodlawn. Sites vary both in numbers of children served and number of caretakers. Some sites are small, license-exempt home daycares serving just 2-3 children at a time. Others are licensed daycare homes that can take up to 12 children at a time, and one is a larger capacity daycare center.

Each childcare site is independently owned and operated and reflects the unique style, philosophy, and cultural background of the proprietor. All sites are similar, however, in that they utilize common administrative procedures, and they take similar approaches to creating loving, safe, developmentally informed play and educational experiences for young children.

Each childcare provider within the Baby Ph.D. Childcare Network sets her own fees.

Childcare fees vary according to a number of factors including: the caregiver to child ratio, child's age, the caregiver's background, amount of specialized programming available on-site, and hours of care. Fees for full time care currently range from \$275 - \$395/week.

Weekday Play-N-Learn

Baby Ph.D. collaborates with Hyde Park Neighborhood Club to sponsor a weekday Play-N-Learn program. The Play-N-Learn program consists of 2-3 daily play-based educational activities for children 0-4 and their caregivers. Activities include creative art, music, sign language, Tot Lot, age-based playgroups and more. The current schedule is available at www.babyphd.com or www.hpclub.org. Baby Ph.D. Network members are able to participate in Play-N-Learn Programs at no extra cost.

Fees

Annual Membership*

Network membership is open to daycare providers in the Hyde Park and surrounding communities and the families they enroll. Membership is also open to families who employ nannies or use friends and relatives to meet their childcare needs.

Membership dues help to support all aspects of network operations. Additional support comes from the Hyde Park Neighborhood Club and a grant from the Childcare Initiative and of the University of Chicago and University of Chicago Hospitals.

Membership fees for 2011-2012 range from \$288 - \$388 (pro-rated to \$24-33/month for families who join mid-year). Families with two children enrolled will receive a 50% discount for the second child. Detailed information on membership benefits is available from info@babyphd.com.

Childcare Information and Referral**

Local childcare information and detailed referral to Baby Ph.D. Network members is available to families for a one-time fee of \$25.00.

Please note: Depending on the time of year and number of applicants, the process of securing childcare may be very quick or it may extend over several months. Payment of an application fee does not guarantee a slot within the Baby Ph.D. Childcare Network. It does guarantee, however, that you will be informed of openings as they come available and that you will be added to our waiting list if you do not secure a spot by your target start date. Once you have paid the application fee you will also be eligible to receive a variety of information on finding a nanny and/or finding families seeking others for nanny-share.

Payments

Application fees and membership dues may be paid by personal check or credit card. Personal checks should be made out to The Hyde Park Neighborhood Club. Please note "Baby Ph.D." on the memo. Credit card payments may be made in person at the Hyde Park Neighborhood Club or over the phone (773-643-4062).