

Home Page

Cradle to Crayons Learning Center is a privately owned childcare center located in Golden, Colorado. The center is conveniently located inside Heritage Square. We are a State Licensed facility, and care for children ages 6 weeks to 7 years old. We have 5 classrooms to ensure that your child is engaged in age appropriate activities with children of the same age group.

Hours of Operation

Our hours of operation are 7am to 6pm, Monday through Friday. The center is open twelve months a year except for the following days: New Years' Eve, New Years' Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. If one of these major holidays falls on a weekend, the day the center will be closed will correspond with the day the majority of our families have off.

Pictures of exterior.

About Us

Cradle to Crayons has been caring for children since 1998. We are a family owned and operated facility. We are not a chain or corporately operated center. Our center has a warm and welcoming family atmosphere.

Our Philosophy

Children learn through playing, exploring their surroundings, and interacting with others. Cradle to Crayons provides a safe, nurturing, loving, and clean environment to foster children's growth and development. Our staff recognizes that children are unique and individual in their development. We are committed to showing respect to each child through a warm, encouraging, and caring attitude.

Our program is individualized to meet the needs of children as they move through the center. The schedule allows for independent play, group play, social interactions, activity exploration, outside play, and movement. Our staff is educated and experienced in taking care of children and the developmental process.

It is our goal to help the children develop a positive self esteem, a sense of trust and respect for others. We want to facilitate this by providing quality care, a foundation for future learning, and a quality experience while at Cradle to Crayons.

Our Staff

Management

Our Director and Assistant director are dedicated to creating and maintaining an environment that you feel good about bringing your child to each day. They both spend time in all of the classrooms regularly to ensure they are as involved with each child development as possible.

Courtney Parry is the Owner and Director of Cradle to Crayons. She has been with us for 3 years. Courtney has her Bachelor's Degree in Behavioral Science and Early Childhood Education for Metro State College and her Large Childcare Center Director's License from Red Rock Community College. Courtney started with Cradle to Crayons in the Infant Center; she has since become the director and recently purchased the center from the previous owner. Courtney has a three year old son who attends Cradle to Crayons as well.

Tara DeMarco, our Assistant director has been at Cradle to Crayons for 5 years. She has her Large Childcare Center Director License from Red Rocks Community College. Tara started with us as a teacher in our Toddler Room; she has since worked in all 5 classrooms. Tara has a 4 and 6 year old girls, both who attend Cradle to Crayons.

We hire only qualified, experienced and caring individuals to care for your children. A majority of our staff have been with Cradle to Crayons for many years. All of our teachers are experienced with young children; most have children of their own. They are all CRP and First Aide certified, as well as receive ongoing training each year in the growth and development of young children.

Programs

Infants

Our infant center cares for children 6 weeks to approximately 12 months old. We are licensed for 10 children and the ratio is 1 caregiver for 5 children. Development at this age can vary from month to month. We try to follow whatever schedule works best at home. Caregivers spend a lot of time reading, singing, working on tummy time, practicing sitting up, etc. We know that each child is a unique individual and will reach milestones in his own time. Each child is held while being fed, and given plenty of personal attention and love throughout the day. Our infant center offers a home like, comfortable environment for you and your child.

Wobblers and Toddlers

Our Wobbler Room cares for children 12 to 24 months. We are licensed for 10 children and the ratio is 1 caregiver for 5 children. Little ones at this stage are working on becoming steady on their feet while exploring their world. Some structure and plenty of routine is introduced to this class. Wobblers have a daily circle time in which they go over animals, animal noises, naming and identifying body parts, sing songs, reading, etc. Each child is given the personal attention and care they need, as well as lots of hugs!!

Our Toddler Room cares for children 24 to 30 months. We are licensed for 10 Toddlers and the ratio is 1 teacher for 5 children. Teachers plan activities around a theme based curriculum. Daily activities help foster your child's cognitive, language, motor, and social skills. Each child is given a chance to explore and learn through their own means. We offer each child one on one attention as well as group interactions to stimulate development.

Weather permitting, the Wobblers and Toddlers spend an hour outside on our playground each day.

Preschool 1 and 2

Our Preschool 1 cares for children 2 ½ to 3 ½ years old. We are licensed for 15 children and the ratio is 1 caregiver for 8 children. The teachers plan weekly lesson planned based on a monthly theme. Our theme based curriculum emphasizes language development to help children communicate their ideas. Group activities are planned to foster their social, cognitive, language, and motor skills. This room introduces a preschool program, with a daily group time including learning shapes and colors, and well as introducing letters and numbers. This introduction to preschool excites the children as well as parents. The growth you will see in your child at this age is amazing.

Our Preschool 2 cares for children 3 ½ to 7 years old. We are licensed for 30 children and the ratio is 1 caregiver to 10 children. The teachers plan a weekly lesson plan based on a monthly theme. Our theme based curriculum emphasizes pre-kindergarten readiness, including prewriting skills, early math skills, letter recognition. We focus introducing these basic skills through a play environment, where children are encouraged to explore and learn in a manner that will benefit them the most.

References:

Checklist for Selecting a Quality Childcare Center:

Interior

Do you get a good feeling when you enter the center?	Yes	No
Is there a guest book for signing in and is there useful information displayed for families?	Yes	No
Were you greeting upon entering the facility?	Yes	No
Is the Center State Licensed?	Yes	No
Kitchen		
Are the meals prepared on site?	Yes	No
Are there menus for the month posted and/or available to take home?	Yes	No
Is breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack provided?	Yes	No
Classrooms		
Are the classrooms inviting, attractive, and appealing to children?	Yes	No
Are the classroom activities age appropriate?	Yes	No
Are the decorations seasonal and/or related to the theme?	Yes	No
Are the teachers caring and responsive/interacting with the children?	Yes	No
Is the atmosphere happy and busy?	Yes	No
Is there a cubby area for children to store their coats and	Yes	No

personal belongings?

Infant Room

Are the bottles labeled with the children's names?	Yes	No
Are there enough cribs for all the infants?	Yes	No
Are there toys and activities for all stages of development?	Yes	No
Is the room clean?	Yes	No
Are the toys sanitized daily?	Yes	No
Are the meals, nap times and overall care personalized You and your and your infant?	Yes	No

Wobbler and Toddler Room

Does the center offer a toilet training program that involves parents?	Yes	No
Are the toys sanitized daily?	Yes	No
Are play and daily routines used as opportunities for nurturing and learning?	Yes	No
Do the toys and materials offer interesting and challenging activities?	Yes	No

Preschool 1 and 2

Does the curriculum prepare your child for kindergarten?	Yes	No
Are children read to at least twice a day?	Yes	No
Does the curriculum offer hands on learning experiences?	Yes	No
Do children receive one-on-one interaction with a teacher?	Yes	No
Are writing materials available to children?	Yes	No
Are a wide range of instructional methods used, such as small-group learning, whole-group learning and individual learning?	Yes	No

Health and Safety

Is there a safety plan in place, in the event of an emergency?	Yes	No
Are children adequately supervised?	Yes	No
What are the procedures for who is allowed to pick up a child?	Yes	No
Are all outdoor play areas fenced in?	Yes	No
Are there individual play yards for different ages?	Yes	No

Director and Assistant Director

Was the Director professional and well informed?	Yes	No
Was she knowledgeable and thorough during the tour?	Yes	No
Did she take the time to address your questions and comments?	Yes	No
Did you feel comfortable with her answers?	Yes	No

Staff

Are the staff members experienced with young children?	Yes	No
Are Staff Member CRP/First Aide Certified?	Yes	No
Are the Staff Member friendly and welcoming?	Yes	No

Miscellaneous

Is the center open all year round?	Yes	No
Does the center have a referral Program where you can	Yes	No

earn free tuition or discounts?

Is the tuition due weekly, monthly or annually?

Will you receive a yearly tax receipt for income tax purposes?

Yes No

Supply List

Infants

- ü Crib Sheet
- ü Blanket
- ü Diapers
- ü Wipes (1 box per month)
- ü Pre-made bottles (enough for the day)
- ü Cereal and Jar Food
- ü Pacifiers (2 if necessary)
- ü Change of clothes (in the diaper bag each day)

Wobblers & Toddlers

- ü Crib Sheet
- ü Blanket
- ü Stuffed animal (anything special your child may like to nap with)
- ü Diapers
- ü Wipes (1 box per month)
- ü Change of clothes
- ü Coat, Hats, Gloves, Boots
- ü Pacifier (if necessary)

Preschool 1 & 2

- ü Crib Sheet
- ü Blanket
- ü Change of clothes
- ü Diapers (if toilet training)
- ü Wipes (1 box per month if still training)
- ü Stuffed Animal (or anything special your child may like to nap with)
- ü Coat, Hat, Gloves, Boots

*****All bedding is washed at the center at least once a week.*****

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Is the atmosphere happy and busy?	Yes	No
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Infant Room		
Are the bottles labeled with the children's names?	Yes	No
Are there enough cribs for all the infants?	Yes	No
Are there toys and activities for all stages of development?	Yes	No
Is the room clean?	Yes	No
Are the toys sanitized daily?	Yes	No
Are the meals, nap times and overall care personalized to you and your infant?	Yes	No
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Do the children receive one-on-one interaction with a teacher?	Yes	No
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