

Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: Children's Imagination Station **Enrollment:** 109 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 14144

Street: 1826 3rd Ave South **City:** Denison Iowa **Zip** 51442 **County:** Crawford

Mailing Address: 1826 3rd Ave South, Denison, IA, 51442

Director's Name: Kim Larson **Phone Number:** 712-263-7100

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** director@denisoncis.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-13-2024

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X NA

Signed Application (470-0722) Received Yes No X NA **Date Signed:**

FIRE INSPECTION X **State** **Local** NA **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X Yes No NA

Date Inspected: 03-15-2024

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X School-Age
Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	<u>Year-round</u>		<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>	
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	25	24	63	34	146
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans

Date: 04-01-2024

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An Unannounced licensing visit was made to Children's Imagination Station in Denison Iowa on 3-13-2023. The child care center is located in a residential area (the center opened in 2001). Denison Head Start I and II are also located in this building. Kim Larson is the director. She was previously the director and returned to the center in July 2022. Child care services are offered to children four weeks old to eleven years old children Monday through Friday 5:30 am to 6:00 pm. I met with Kim Larson during my licensing visit. There are 109 children enrolled.

Observation of rooms:

There are seven program rooms, all program rooms looked nice and were in ratio. The children were observed participating in a variety of activities. Staff were positive and attentive to the needs of the children. The school age children were in school at the time of my visit. The program rooms had a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The daily sheets looked good, the teachers in each room are responsible for their lesson plans/activities. During the summer the school age program has weekly themes.

Infant room - staff must be able to see all children at all times. One child couldn't be seen in their crib due to room arrangement.

The Procure app is used.

Kim reported the center is full and they have a waiting list.

Nutrition:

The center receives their meals from Treat America/Company Kitchen. Monthly menus are posted. Proper food storage was observed, and thermometers are in the refrigerators/freezers. The center participates in the federal food program.

Health and safety:

The center follows the medication management procedures when children are prescribed medication. Fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented monthly. Radon testing was done in July 2022, Seven tests were completed and all test results were under a 4.0 pCi/L. Radon testing is required every two years. It was reported that the building has all electric appliances, therefore a fuel burning inspection isn't required.

There appeared to be some confusion regarding sanitizing and disinfecting. Bleach water is used. I discussed this with Kim and she will review the procedure with the staff that mixes the bottles. Make sure they are following the correct sanitizing and disinfecting procedure 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA and child care approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. If you are using bleach/eater you will need to follow the directions on the specific bottle of bleach you are using for mixing instructions for sanitizing and disinfecting - if the information isn't on the bottle you will need to go to the website listed on the bottle. Please review the proper sanitizing procedure with the staff in the infant room as she was sanitizing hard surface toys in the sink used for hand washing after diaper changing. Please don't sanitize toys in the sink used for hand washing after diaper changing. Bleach/water needs to be mixed daily.

Playground:

The center has playground areas for each age group of children. Monthly playground safety inspections are completed.

Transportation:

The center doesn't provide daily transportation services. During the summer the school age program goes on field trips.

Administrative records:

The center has the required postings on the parent board. The center has the required policies and procedures.

The center employs 19 staff.

Child files were read and were in good order.

Some staff files were read and one staff needed a current national record check - Gail. Please make sure all staff have current record checks.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Kim Larson is very proud and enthusiastic about the center.

The center is a wonderful resource for the community.

Staff were attentive to the needs of the children, many staff have excellent longevity.

The center is in the process of applying for the IQ4K program. The center receives various grants and has fundraising events throughout the year. The center has received grants for painting, new flooring, playground renovation etc.

The center has an intercom system which allows communication between staff - this is extremely helpful if a staff person needs to leave the room, emergency issues, or if more staff are needed in a room.

The center has a supportive board.

Child Care Resource & Referral worker, Bailey Hill has worked with the center. Kim has met with the child care nurse consultant Jennifer Chapman.

Kim has daily communication with staff, she has quarterly staff meetings and she provides weekly staff notes.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

109.6(6)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.

Some staff files were read and one staff needed a current national record check - Gail. Please make sure all staff have current record checks.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

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109.12(4): Sufficient toilet articles are provided for handwashing. Sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture that conforms with CPSC or ASTM. Play equipment, materials, and furniture meet the developmental, activity, and special needs of the children. Room's arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children. Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap. Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner. Sufficient spacing is maintained between equipment to reduce transmission of disease and allow ease of movement by children and staff to respond to activities and care needs. Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.

Additional concerns: Infant room - staff must be able to see all children at all times. One child couldn't be seen in their crib due to room arrangement.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 6-1-2024 to 6-1-2026.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.