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

Name of Center: Story Time Preschool & Child Care Center **Enrollment:** 37 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30116

Street: 1114 Morningside Ave **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51106 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 1114 Morningside Ave, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Kim Storey-Geisler **Phone Number:** 712-276-1140

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kara Sawyer **E-Mail:** storytimepreschool1@hotmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-13-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 01-30-2024

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

Date Inspected: 06-19-2023

Comments :

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

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: 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:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General		6	29	15	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2024 to 03-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 02-23-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited center on 2-13-24 and spoke Kara Sawyer, onsite supervisor and director Kim Storey-Geisler. Ms Storey-Geisler has a four year early education degree and thirty eight years of experience in childcare and Ms Sawyer has eighteen years' experience in childcare. Story Time Preschool & Child Care Center is housed in a building that contains three primary program areas and an eating/activity area. The center provides childcare to children ages 2 years to school age Monday through Friday 7am to 5:30pm. Currently there are 37 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit there were 27 children present.

In the morning the 2 and 3's are combined and then at 9:00am the two year olds will go to their room, however, when they don't have a lot of two's so they keep the children combined. At the time of the visit they were not using the 2 year old room. This room tends to be an overflow room depending on the day. All the children's rooms had the following areas throughout for the children to explore and learn: science, house, art, puzzles, blocks, games, books, sand & water table and dramatic play. Children have access to bathrooms. Displayed throughout the room were numbers, pictures of children's families, children's artwork, and the alphabet. Good room arrangement with centers throughout the area. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Observed staff engage the children in conversations throughout the day, reading stories to the children, assisting children with various activities, on the floor playing with the children and remind the children about rules. Staff had good interaction with the children throughout the day. There is a step-ladder in the 3 year old room which needs to be removed ASAP for safety reasons.

The two year old room was not being used on the day of the visit as they have only a couple of two year olds. However, when they are using the two year old room children learn to potty train and have access to bathroom and changing table. During this visit observed the children participating in the following activities with the combined 3 year olds: lunch, free play (during this time children can explore the various centers throughout the room), stories read to the children and naptime. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were colors, children's artwork and a picture schedule for the children. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the children.

The center is a part of the preschool initiative program for 4 year old's. This school year Preschool is offered daily Monday thru Friday 8:30am to 1:30pm In the afternoon childcare is then provided for the preschool children or they are picked up by parents. When the for school ages are not in school they are also in this room before and after school. Creative Curriculum and Gold are used as curriculum.

Center Nutrition Activities Observed
Refrigerator is clean and kept at the appropriate temperature, however a thermometer is needed in the store room refrigerator. The kitchen area is sectioned off from the rest of the facility. Nutritious meals are prepared by staff in a small kitchen. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. Menus were posted. Center participates in the CACFP program.

Center Health & Safety
Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. Center follows proper guidelines for administering

medication. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon tests were not available at the time of the visit. Director stated the test have been mailed in and they were waiting for the results. Annual heating inspection is complete. Center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. There is a ladder that is in the 3 year old room that needs to be removed ASAP for safety reasons.

Center Playground. has a fenced-in playground area which is located next to the center. The playground has a playhouse, slides and climbing equipment. Shredded rubber cushioning is around all of the equipment. The playground has shade. Center has documentation of playground inspections. Center has not used the playground much for winter and would need to be cleaned up prior to usage when warm weather occurs.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
Staff transport older children in vans from their other center in the area. The center has a newer van information into DHS licensing notebook. Parent permission forms are completed for children who leave the center for field trips.

All the required postings were visible. The center's discipline practices consist of talking to the children, PBIS (positive behavior support) and time out. Center has Emergency Preparedness plan.

Ms Kara stated goals are to have have staff do more trainings with children who have experienced some trauma to be able to assist children more if they are having behaviors. To get on the IQ4K program.

Strengths of the program is that has good core of staff who have good communication and relationship with the families. The program is apart of the preschool initiative program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center sends home to parents a monthly newsletter describing what the center is doing with each age group.

Center displays children's art work in the rooms.

Center has four stars on the QRS rating system.

Children's toys are at their level and accessible.

Positive interaction with the children.

Center has child size furniture throughout the room.

Part of the preschool initiative.

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

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
Number not in compliance: 1

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Number not in compliance: 1

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center’s care.
Number not in compliance for medical: 1
Information lacking: Information was missing

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

109.15(5)a: Sufficient refrigeration is provided appropriate to perishable food.
Additional concerns: Refrigerator needs to thermometer to ensure proper temperature.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Program will email consultant by 03-31-24 confirming that all aspects that fall below standards have been corrected.

A full license will remain in effect at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.