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

Name of Center: Natural Wonders Learning Center **Enrollment:** 69 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50179

Street: 1512 Westwood DR **City:** Jefferson Iowa **Zip** 50129 **County:** Greene

Mailing Address: 1512 Westwood DR, Jefferson, IA, 50129

Director's Name: Nicole Timmons **Phone Number:** 515-386-2317

On-Site Supervisor(s): Madison Hughes **E-Mail:** naturalwonders4kids@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-08-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-17-2022

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

Date Inspected: 06-09-2020

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years.

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	16	12	26	16	70
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2022 to 12-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-08-2022

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 11/8/22. The owner/director was present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Natural Wonders Learning Center is a center in Jefferson, IA that was given permission to open on 8/20/18. The center is owned by Nicole Timmons. Nicole is also the director of the center. Nicole has a BA degree in Early Childhood Education and Special Education. Nicole has over 10 years of experience working in child care in both a school and a child care setting. The on-site supervisor as of 11/2021 is Madison Hughes. Madison meets the requirements for on-site supervisor based on her experience in child care and professional development training she has completed.

The center serves children six weeks in age to 12 years in age using the Creative Learning Curriculum. The center is open year-round. There are a total of five classrooms. The infant classroom has a capacity of eight children. The toddler classroom has a capacity of eight children. The two year old classroom has a capacity of 12 children. The three/four year old classroom has a capacity of 26 children. The five/school-age classroom has a capacity of 16 children.

Children were observed in a variety of activities from napping in cribs, tummy time, being held by staff, playing at the different learning stations set up in classroom, and playing outside on the playground.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center meets a need in the community. Enrollment has again increased over the past year.

The center was nicely decorated and clean.

The center uses Bright Wheel which is an electronic application for daily sheets.

The center employs a full-time cook.

The director has lots of experience working in the child care/school setting.

The center utilizes the Family Resource Center for assistance when needed.

Quarterly all staff meetings are held.

The owner stated she felt like she has a good staff working for her. Staff work well together and have good communication with each other and support each other.

Good child-staff interactions were observed. Staff worked well together redirecting one child who was struggling some at the time of the visit.

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

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment.
Number not in compliance: 1 child was missing a current physical in their file.

109.9(3): Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.
Number missing: 0
Number invalid: 1 immunization wasn't signed or dated.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a bus that is used for field trips. The bus has a first-aid kit and staff take children's emergency contacts with them for all field trips.

Radon testing is due every two years in classrooms and was last tested 12/24/21 - 12/28/21. Radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff. The center had been working with a radon mitigation specialist prior to this last test.

The annual furnace inspection was completed on 11/1/22.

IQ4K and I-Power were discussed at the visit.

The owner stated that she is in the process of putting up security cameras outside and in classrooms.

One newer staff member is still within her first 90 days of needing to complete first-aid, CPR, Mandatory Reporter, Universal Precautions, and Essentials.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. An administrative change is also being made to the center license to change capacity to 70 children.

*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.