Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: BB's Preschool & Childcare

Provider No.: 30104

Address: 3919 Jefferson ST, Sioux City, IA, 51108

County: Woodbury

Director's Name: Brenda Barto

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7122399061

E-Mail: bartob@q.com

HHS Visit Date: 05/06/2026

Licensing Period: 06/01/2026 to 06/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 06/10/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [ ] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [X] Accrediation — Comments: NAEYC

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	
Tuesday		8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	
Wednesday		8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	
Thursday		8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	
Friday		8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	16	15	31
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit at BB's Preschool on 05/08/25. I spoke with Brenda Barto, the program director. Ms. Barto holds a CDA and has over 30 years of experience working with children. The center is located in Leeds Elementary School (Room 128). The program operates Monday through Thursday from 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. during the school year for children ages three to five, as well as school-age children who are primarily siblings of enrolled preschoolers. On Friday the school has an early out and school agers who participate are rom 1:30 pm till 5:30pm. There are 20 children enrolled at 18 at the time of my visit.

All areas of the program were observed, including classroom activities, nutrition practices, health and safety routines, field trip and transportation procedures, and program documentation.

Throughout the classroom, I observed multiple activities. One lesson focused on identifying feelings. Children were shown pictures of various emotions and asked to identify each feeling. For emotions such as sadness or anger, the group discussed possible problem-solving strategies. Children were highly engaged and participated actively in the lesson. The room is arranged thoughtfully with well-organized tables, centers, and learning spaces. Visual learning materials are displayed throughout the classroom, including colors, shapes, the five senses, a globe, a picture schedule, a job chart, children's artwork, and the alphabet. I also observed a group song about the weather, and children were enthusiastic and engaged in the activity.

I observed a creative and effective cleanup strategy used by Ms. Barto and her staff. During cleanup time, they played an "I-Spy" game in which children identified items still needing to be picked up. Children were excited to participate and showed good responsibility and attention to detail. The program provides children with opportunities to take on small leadership

roles throughout the day.

The program prepares its own meals and is CACFP certified. Meals follow a rotating menu. On the day of my visit, children were excited to share that lunch including a chicken burrito fruit and vegetables. Child-sized tables and chairs were available, and staff sat with children during meals, reading stories and engaging in conversation. I observed proper handwashing by both staff and children, and staff used positive language to redirect children and reinforce classroom expectations.

Ms. Barto shared that she recently hired a licensed teacher for part of the current school year and for the upcoming school year. This is a significant improvement for the program, which previously lost funding due to staffing changes. They are now fully staffed with a licensed teacher.

The center utilizes Creative Curriculum Gold and incorporates ECR, IGDIs, and Ages and Stages for assessments and planning. This means the program uses a research-based curriculum and a set of developmental screening and assessment tools to monitor children's progress. Creative Curriculum Gold provides structured, developmentally appropriate lesson plans and helps teachers observe and document learning across key developmental areas. The ECR (Environmental Classroom Rating) tools help staff assess the quality of the classroom environment. IGDIs (Individual Growth and Development Indicators) are quick assessments used to monitor early literacy, language, and numeracy skills. Ages and Stages is a developmental screening tool used to identify whether children are meeting age-appropriate milestones or may need additional support. Together, these tools guide lesson planning, support individualized instruction, and ensure that children's developmental needs are consistently monitored.

The classroom includes a wide range of learning and play centers such as blocks, dramatic play, writing, science, books, art, puzzles, math, a sensory table, and music/movement. There is also a bowl with plastic fish and a decorative jellyfish, which serve as conversation starters and allow children to ask questions and build language skills. The room is bright, inviting, and developmentally appropriate. Throughout the centers, you'll see a little info slip that shares what your child is learning in that spot—it's just a quick, friendly way to keep you in the loop about what they're exploring.

Children have easy access to bathrooms, with visual handwashing prompts posted nearby. A daily schedule of activities was also posted. Medication is stored securely either in a lockbox or out of children's reach, and the program follows proper medication-administration procedures. Tables were sanitized prior to meals, and handwashing routines were consistently followed. The first aid kit was adequately stocked for minor injuries. Fire and tornado drills were documented. Radon testing and was completed and were within acceptable standards. The center maintains strong sanitation procedures and a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All areas were clean, organized, and well maintained.
The program has access to a large fenced-in school playground with rubber tile surfacing. Although the program does not use the school's climbing equipment, they utilize a grassy area outside the classroom where staff engage children in games and other activities. Monthly playground inspections are completed, and shade is available. Staff shared that the children occasionally walk to a nearby park located a few blocks away. Walking to a nearby park supports the program's curriculum by giving children opportunities for hands-on learning outside the classroom. These walks promote physical development, encourage exploration of the natural environment, and allow children to practice social skills such as staying together as a group and following safety rules.

The center sends a monthly newsletter and maintains its own website containing program information, weekly lesson plans, and updates. Ms. Barto is an active member of NAEYC.

The center's goal is to work towards IQ4K certification.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Ms. Barto is a member of the NAEYC. NAEYC accreditation tells parents the program is safe, high-quality, well-staffed, and focused on strong learning and family partnerships. For example, a NAEYC center might share regular updates about a child's progress and use trained teachers who create developmentally appropriate activities every day.

This staff has built such caring, genuine relationships with the children in their care. The kids come in excited every day—eager to learn, play, and just enjoy being at school because they feel supported and loved.

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The school celebrates the end of the year with a fun, festive family potluck—everyone comes together to share food, laugh, and enjoy a cheerful wrap-up to the year.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.10(7): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are: In the center. In the outdoor play area. On field trips (away from the center). Take First Aid bag with you at all times.

109.11(8)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

Fuel Burning inspection has not been provided to the center from the school.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Behavioral targeted assessment of behavior management, I spoke with the director, Ms. Barto about how she guides staff in three key areas: understanding expectations, managing frustrations in a positive way, and monitoring performance to support consistent, effective practices.

This director knows her staff well, and they share a strong, supportive working relationship. They naturally step in to help one another when someone is struggling or feeling frustrated, which creates a calmer, more positive environment for the kids. Their consistent schedule also helps children feel secure and focused, making it easier for them to learn, engage, and enjoy their day.

Program needs to email consultant confirming that those aspects that fall below standards have been corrected by 06/01/26

A full license is recommended at this time.

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

Date: 05/11/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.