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

Name of Center: Zuma Zoo Daycare **Enrollment:** 44 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46951

Street: 108 E Irwin St **City:** Montezuma Iowa **Zip** 50171 **County:** Poweshiek

Mailing Address: PO Box 923, Montezuma, IA, 50171

Director's Name: Alexa Wheaton **Phone Number:** 641-891-1155

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jaicee Snook **E-Mail:** alexa@zumazoodaycare.com

Date(s) of Visit:

Licensing Visit **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:** 03-10-2024

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

Date Inspected: 11-29-2022

Comments : 12/14/22 - date of compliance

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	8		18	18	44
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2024 to 10-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 12-21-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Zuma Zoo Daycare opened April 2016. The center is located within a single standing building which has a secured entrance. The center serves children ages infancy through ten years. Alexa Wheaton is the owner and director. Alexa has a BA in Elementary Education and prior child care experience. Jaicee Snook is the on site supervisor. She began in this role in February 2020. Jaicee has been employed at the center since 2019.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licenses rules were observed. The center has three program classrooms: an infant classroom, a room that serves children ages two to four and a classroom that serves preschool children and also school age children. Mandatory postings were up in the entry way. Schedules were posted. Lesson plans were not posted today.

The infant classroom serves children ages six weeks up to children turning two years. There were eight infants present. Two staff were working today. A lot of restrictive devices have been removed from this room. This room has been divided into two areas, non-mobiles and mobiles.

The middle classroom had eleven children in attendance. Two staff were working with this age group. One staff was reading books to children as a large group activity. Some children were playing as individual, child directed activities.

The preschool classroom had eight children present. There was one staff working with this class. The room was eating lunch and playing within the interest centers. Five children left for preschool at the elementary school. Three children were brought into the kitchen to play while staff washed dishes. This was addressed during the visit and children were brought back into their classroom.

The center has a kitchen. Alexis

The center has a fenced in outdoor playground. There is a climbing structure that has adequate surfacing. There is an area for the smaller children. The older children go to the school's playground at times for outdoor play also. Monthly playground inspections have been completed.

The center doesn't provide transportation.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Alexa has a Bachelors degree in Elementary Education. The center is located close to the elementary school.

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

109.11(6): Kitchen appliance or microwaves:Gas or electric ovens are not in program area.Area housing kitchen appliances in program area is sectioned off and not counted in useable floor space.Formula or food warmed for infants in microwaves is not served immediately and is shaken or stirred prior to serving.Breast milk is not warmed in the microwave.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center's license has been changed back to their full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email mlarson@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

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