Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Linda Birchard

Provider Name: Linda Birchard

Provider No.: 28135

Address: 215 Myrtle ST, Creston, IA, 50801

E-Mail:

County: Union

Phone Number: 6412020153

- [ ] Pre-Inspection Date:
- [ ] Approval Date:
- [X] Annual Visit Date: 5/8/2026

Program Type:

- [ ] Registered Child Development Home A (guidelines for ratios on all categories)
- [X] Registered Child Development Home B
- [ ] Registered Child Development Home C
- [ ] Registered Child Development Home C1
- [ ] Non Registered Child Care Homes accepting CCA

Program Population Served:

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

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1. Basic Overview

Linda Birchard has been providing childcare services for over 30 years. She reported she attended two years of college before starting in childcare. She is currently a level 2 IQ4K rated childcare home. When compliance staff arrived, the provider was caring for six children. The children were in all areas of the childcare playing with toys and moving about. The provider reported that they try to maintain a basic schedule during the childcare day. The day is made of free play, crafts and activities, reading time, and getting outside as the weather permits. The provider had all necessary signage posted for compliance measures. The provider asked the oldest child about where they go if there is a bad storm outside. And then what do we do if there is a fire. The child talked all about what they do for emergencies.

2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

Compliance staff observed the interactions between the children and the provider. The children easily approached the caregiver to ask questions or to receive help. Compliance staff observed the provider talking to the children using age-appropriate language and steps to do or find what they wanted or needed.

The provider reported that her strengths include that her childcare does have and sticks to a routine. She stated the children always know what to do and they ask to move on to the next thing. She reported that she has great relationships with the children and families that she works with. These individuals become family as part of this childcare.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

The provider was in full compliance with regulation standards.

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

5. Special Notes/recommendations

2026 targeted compliance measure: Emergency Preparedness Plan. The provider has a completed EP plan that identifies planned actions for evacuation, shelter in place, lockdown, communication and reunification. The plan also addresses continuity of care in the event of a disaster at the location of the childcare. The provider noted that she does need to update a couple of minor things on the plan. This will be reviewed at the next compliance visit.

Please remember that your Mandatory Reporter Training will expire in February 2027. You will need to update it at that time.

HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Stacy Burris Date: 5/12/2026

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Development Home Registration. Please take whatever steps are necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above. It is essential you correct all above-mentioned violations.

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 Shelby Nelson 712-579-8899