

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

Name of Center: Children's Imagination Station **Enrollment:** 109 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 14144

Street: 1826 3rd Ave South **City:** Denison **Iowa Zip** 51442 **County:** Crawford

Mailing Address: 1826 3rd Ave South, Denison, IA, 51442

Director's Name: Kim Larson **Phone Number:** 712-263-7100

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** director@denisoncis.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-11-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X NA

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

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

Date Inspected: 12-03-2020

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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:	<u>Year-round</u>		<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>	
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	25	24	63	34	146
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 2

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 06-01-2022 to 06-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans

Date: 05-23-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An Unannounced off year licensing visit was made to Children's Imagination Station in Denison Iowa on 5-11-2023. The child care center is located in a residential area (the center opened in 2001). Denison Head Start I and II are also located in this building. Kim Larson is the director. She was previously the director and returned to the center in July 2022. Child care services are offered to children four weeks old to eleven years old children Monday through Friday 5:30 am to 6:00 pm. I met with Kim Larson during my licensing visit. There are 109 children enrolled.

Observation of rooms:

There are seven program rooms, all program rooms looked nice and were in ratio. Most of the rooms were observed during nap time. Staff were attentive to the needs of the children. The school age children were in school at the time of my visit. The program rooms had a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The daily sheets looked good, the teachers in each room are responsible for their lesson plans/activities. During the summer the school age program has weekly themes.

The center has received grants for painting and new flooring.

The Procure app is used.

Nutrition:

The center receives their meals from Treat America/Company Kitchen. Monthly menus are posted. Proper food storage was observed, and thermometers are in the refrigerators/freezers. The center participates in the federal food program.

Health and safety:

The center follows the medication management procedures when children are prescribed medication. Fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented monthly. Radon testing was done in January 2022, Seven tests were completed and all test results were under a 4.0 pCi/L. Radon testing is required every two years. It was reported that the building has all electric appliances, therefore a fuel burning inspection isn't required.

The center uses the three step bottle procedure for sanitizing and disinfecting.

Playground:

The center has playground areas for each age group of children. Monthly playground safety inspections are completed. The center is fundraising for a new play ground area in front of the center. The toddler playground area will have some repairs/patching done to the poured in place surfacing.

Transportation:

The center doesn't provide daily transportation services. During the summer the school age program goes on field trips.

Administrative records:

The center has the required postings on the parent board. The center has the required policies and procedures.

The center employs 25 staff. Kim reported it is difficult to find staff to work at the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is a wonderful resource for the community.

Kim Larson returned to the center as the director in July 2023. Some staff have excellent longevity.

Staff were attentive to the needs of the children.

The center participates in the Quality Rating System (QRS) and they are a level 2. They will begin the process to apply for the IQ4K program. The center receives various grants and has fundraising events throughout the year. The center has received grants for painting and new flooring. The center is fundraising for a new play ground area in front of the center.

The toddler playground area will have some repairs/patching done to the poured in place surfacing.

The center has an intercom system which allows communication between staff - this is extremely helpful if a staff person needs to leave the room, emergency issues, or if more staff are needed in a room.

The center has a supportive board.

Child Care Resource & Referral worker, Bailey Hill has worked with the center. Kim has met with the child care nurse consultant Jennifer Chapman.

Kim has daily communication with staff, she has quarterly staff meetings and she provides weekly staff notes.

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 6-1-2022 to 6-1-2024.

Off year licensing visit 5-11-2023.

Your fire marshal inspection will expire on 12-3-2023, make sure you have another inspection done by that date. (The last fire marshal inspection I have is dated 12-3-2020)

*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.