Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Jack and Jill Preschool

Provider No.: 13191

Address: 1100 Maple St, Atlantic, IA, 50022

County: Cass

Director's Name: Leslie Haynes

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7122433934

E-Mail: lhaynes@nishnavalleyymca.com

HHS Visit Date: 10/05/2026

Licensing Period: 11/01/2026 to 11/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 06/20/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

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 3:30 PM	
Tuesday		8:00 AM to 3:30 PM	
Wednesday			
Thursday		8:00 AM to 3:30 PM	
Friday		8:00 AM to 3:30 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			40		40
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Jack and Jill Preschool on 10/5/26. Jack and Jill Preschool is located in the Nishna Valley YMCA in Atlantic, Iowa. Morning and afternoon preschool sessions are offered to children three to five years old. Leslie Haynes continues to be the director and has been working at the center since 1998. She has an Elementary Education K-6 Bachelor's Degree with an endorsement for Early Childhood. The Preschool is open for four-year-olds Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8 AM - 11:20 AM and again from 12:10 PM - 3:30 PM. The three-year-old Preschool is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9 AM - 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM - 3 PM. No preschool programming is offered on Wednesdays. There are 64 children enrolled. Leslie was not present on the day I visited but I was able to talk with her on 10/6/26.

Observation of rooms:
The center uses two rooms for preschool programming. The rooms looked great and are arranged in activity centers. There are a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The children's fun artwork is displayed. The four-year-old room was in the only room in session at the time of my visit and it was in ratio. The children had just arrived back from a field trip in which they were able to ride on a fire truck. The kids were very excited upon their return. They then washed their hands and sat down for snack. Staff had excellent interactions with the children; they were positive and attentive to the children's needs. The program uses a few curriculums including Teaching Strategies Gold, Handwriting Without Tears, Zaner Bloser, and C4 Learning. The lesson plans/activities look great. Staff do checkpoints during some activities to determine goals for each child. Parent teacher conferences are held and a variety of family events are provided throughout the year.

Nutrition:

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There are no meals or snacks provided by the center during preschool hours. Parents volunteer to bring the snack. If for some reason nobody signed up to bring the snack, the center will provide the snack; however, Leslie reported they have a wonderful response from the parents to volunteer to bring the snack.

Health and safety:
The center practices and documents monthly fire and tornado drills. It was reported that the building has all electrical appliances; therefore, the center does not require an annual fuel burning inspection. Radon testing was done in June 2026 and the test scores were in the acceptable range. Radon testing can be done every five years as long as the results are below 4.0 pCi/L. There are two first aid kits and both were properly stocked. One of the first aid kits is for the hallway and one is for when they leave the building. The center has all of their emergency procedures documented and posted in the programming rooms and by the exits. The center has a timer to help children know how long they have to wash their hands. It is color coded and easy for a young child to understand. The center uses bleach water for sanitizing and disinfecting. It is mixed daily.

Playground:
The center has an outdoor play area. Monthly playground safety inspections have not been completed every month. Rubber tile surfacing is used. There is a climbing structure and riding toys. There is nature explorer certified playground on the lower level of the playground.

Transportation:
The program doesn't provide daily transportation services. Some children ride the SWITA bus. If the center goes on a field trip, a bus is hired to provide transportation. Transportation for all four-year-old children is paid for through a grant.

Administrative records:
Seven children's files were reviewed and three were incomplete. Three children did not have a dentist's name and phone number listed, one file listed the parents as the only emergency contact and only the parents as to who is allowed to pick up the child. Two staff files were read and were in excellent order. Leslie has staff meetings on a regular basis and she maintains daily contact with staff. The center has a private Facebook page.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The preschool utilizes the gym, youth room, swimming pool, and the room with the climbing structure. Jack and Jill Preschool is a wonderful resource for the community and they provide a quality preschool program. The program participates in the IQ4K program and is level 1. The center participates in a couple fundraising events during the year. The center applies for grants for new equipment. Last year's goal was to obtain Mega blocks for the gym and they were able to accomplish that goal. Leslie is confident as the director; she is organized and enthusiastic. Staff had excellent interactions with the children. They are positive and nurturing. The center sends out weekly newsletters with the lesson plans. There are monthly staff meetings year-round. Leslie identified their strengths as having highly trained staff, staff are engaged and attentive to the children and their activities, and the staff are well trained. The staff are currently participating in professional development for ramps and pathways called STEM Wonder with Ramps and Pathways. They have obtained new blocks and wooden ramps and pathways. The center works with Child Care Resource and Referral as needed.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care. Seven children's files were reviewed and three were incomplete. Three children did not have a dentist's name and phone number listed, one file listed the parents as the only emergency contact and only the parents as to who is allowed to pick up the child.

109.11(4)b: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept. Monthly playground inspections are not documented.

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

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5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended for 11/1/26 to 11/1/28.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Leslie her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. Leslie said all staff except new staff have PBIS training. Staff are able to tag each other out if one is feeling overwhelmed or staff are able to take a five-minute break, if needed.

Date: 10/08/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

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**.