Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: SPARKS Prairie City

Provider No.: 51956

Address: 309 E Plainsman Rd, Prairie City, IA, 50228

County: Jasper

Director's Name: Owen Ballard

On-Site Supervisor: Evelyn Swan

Phone Number: 5152741501

E-Mail: oballard@campfireiowa.org

HHS Visit Date: 11/17/2025

Licensing Period: 10/01/2024 to 10/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/09/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	7:00 AM to 5:30 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				30	30
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Camp Fire Prairie City Elementary BASP opened on 11/7/22. The center is owned and operated by Camp Fire USA in Des Moines. This center is located in the elementary school. The school has secured entrances. The center uses their classroom and the gym for program rooms. The center also uses the school's playground for outdoor play. The center provides before and after school child care. Owen Ballard is the center's director. Evelyn Swan is the on site supervisor.

All areas subject to HHS rules were reviewed during today's visit. Mandatory postings are in place outside the gym. The center didn't have a schedule or lesson plan posted today. The center keeps their children's toys and supplies and administrative records in their classroom. The center has large motor play toys, games, art supplies and other age appropriate toys for children's use.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. Evelyn assisted with the visit. There were three staff working today. Ten children were in attendance today.. Children were observed in the center's classroom. Children were doing a variety of activities. Children were divided into smaller groups during part of the visit. One group was playing games, one group was coloring Thanksgiving print out sheets and other papers and the other group was playing in an interest area with magnatiles and other toys. Staff were assisting the children and playing alongside them throughout the visit.

The center serves snack after school. The center has a list of CACFP approved snacks. For all day programming, children bring their own lunches. The center serves morning and afternoon snacks.

The center uses the school's playground. There are several climbing structures and swings. There are wood chips for surfacing material. There are grass areas and concrete. There are basketball hoops.

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The center doesn't provide transportation.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Camp Fire USA used to have a before and after school program at this school. The child care center has a lot of program space for the children to use for programming. Administrative records are well maintained.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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

NA

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center has a full license at this time.

Date: 12/01/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

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**.