

Daily Event	What Happens
<b>Early morning and arrival</b>	As FCC children arrive, you get your own children up and ready for the day. You prepare and serve breakfast. Children wash their hands and eat breakfast as they arrive. After breakfast, you check and change infants' diapers and put infants down to nap on their individual schedules. The children help clean up after breakfast and play with table toys, read books, listen to story tapes or work at the computer until breakfast is over. School-age children leave for school.
<b>Morning circle</b> (15 minutes)	Read a story. Recite fingerplays or sing. Talk about plans for the day. Introduce new materials or concepts. Keep circle time short. Stop if you see that children are losing interest and are ready to be more active.
<b>Morning choice time and snack</b> (1 hour)	Toddlers and preschool children choose an experience, such as art, toys and games, dramatic play, sand and water, blocks, or stories and books. As they finish one experience, they move to another. Some infants and toddlers nap during this time. As infants wake up, you bring them to join the other children's play experiences or put them in a safe place to explore. Some providers offer a special project or work on a study with preschool children during choice time. They also offer small-group literacy and math activities several times a week for preschool children. Choice time ends with cleanup, and then snack time follows. Sometimes snack is served family style. The children wash their hands, help prepare the snack, and enjoy the food together with you. Some providers set up a snack bar so children can help themselves to a snack as they finish cleaning up.
<b>Outdoor play</b> (1 hour)	Children get ready to go outside. They use the toilet, wash their hands, have their diapers changed, put on outerwear, and so on. Outdoors, children play in your yard or at a nearby playground.
<b>Transition indoors and to group read-aloud time</b> (1/2 hour)	Children come inside, use the bathroom, and wash hands, or they have their diapers checked and changed. Children participate actively in a short read-aloud time. They continue looking at books or do other quiet activities as you prepare lunch.

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<b>Lunch</b> (30–45 minutes)	Wash hands. Involve children in setting the table and serving food. Sit with the children and eat family style. Bring infants' high chairs to the table so they can be part of the social experience. Children help clean up after lunch.
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<b>Nap time and afternoon snack</b> (1–2 hours)	Everyone (except perhaps a baby who just woke up) has a rest period. Children transition to nap time by using the toilet; washing their hands; brushing their teeth; and going to their cots, mats, or beds. Preschool children who cannot sleep rest quietly and look at books. After resting or playing quietly for 30–40 minutes, they get up and begin a quiet activity. As children wake up, they use the toilet and wash their hands. Infants' diapers are checked and changed. Children eat a snack when they wake up. School-age children arrive and help themselves to a snack. Everyone cleans up from snack and chooses an afternoon activity.
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<b>Afternoon choice time and outdoor play</b> (2 hours)	This is time for active indoor and outdoor play for all children, including school-age children. Some FCC providers take children outdoors right after nap time and then come indoors for afternoon experiences. Other providers schedule indoor experiences after nap time and go out in the late afternoon. Some offer a special project or work on a study.
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<b>Transition and afternoon meeting</b> (1/2 hour)	Children either clean up from choice time or transition back indoors. Many providers have a short group time to talk about the day, make plans for the next day, read a story, and sing a good-bye song.
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<b>End of the day</b>	Children go home at different times. They stay engaged in activities such as drawing, looking at books, or playing with table toys until their families arrive.
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