JOYFUL NOISE
Christian Childcare

Welcome To the Joyful Noise Infant Room!

Direct line: (616) 847-3512

Joyful Noise Office (616) 847- 6600

Infants@joyfulnoisekids.com

Find classroom information on the website at

www.JoyfulNoiseKids.com >>> Parent's Area >>>Classrooms & Specials Hub>>>Infant Room

Specials

*Growing in Grace
*Mindful Moments
*Lil' Reader's Pajama Club

Packet Contents:

- *Classroom Information*
- *Daily Schedule (for older infants)*
- *Daily Activities*
- *Reasons We May Contact You About Your Child*
- *Developmental Goals*
- *Creative Curriculum Info*
- *Suggested Starter Signs for Baby Sign Language*
- *Brightwheel Information*
- *Sensational Steps Info & Permission Slip*
  (Please return form to office)
- *Infant Food Survey*
  (Please return to lead teacher)
- *Parent Questionnaire*
  (Please return to lead teacher)

Updated July 2026

CLASSROOM INFORMATION

TEACHER CONTACT: I can be reached on the nursery's direct line at 847-3512 between 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. each day. Emails can be sent to infants@joyfulnoisekids.com. If you would like to meet after my regular hours, please feel free to contact me.

BRIGHTWHEEL CODE: Upon enrollment and your child's start date, you'll be given a 4-digit code which will allow you entry into our building. This code is **strictly confidential** and should not be shared with anyone. If you've arranged for someone else to drop-off or pick-up your child, they will need to press the doorbell outside our entryway to be let in.

COATHOOKS/CUBBIES/PERSONAL SPACE: We have labeled coat hooks in the hallway for outdoor clothes and large bags. Small labeled baskets in the classroom are for meds, pacifiers, loveys and small daily items. In the refrigerator are spaces labeled for each child's bottles and food brought from home. Under each child's crib is a drawer or basket to hold extra diapers and changes of clothes. Please bring in labeled packages of diapers as needed. Each family is asked to bring in a large package of wipes **monthly**. If your child has sensitivity to a particular type or brand of wipe, please alert staff.

EXTRA SETS OF CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR: Each child should have at least two changes of clothes, including onesies and socks. (More, if you know they go through quite a few changes a day.) Even though they are infants, we still need to have clothes for going outside and some type of foot wear- slippers, Robeez, etc.

PARENT COMMUNICATION: Messages will be sent to you either via Brightwheel or email. Your child's daily feed on the Brightwheel platform will include bottles given, food eaten, naps taken and any other day-to-day activities. A monthly newsletter and a monthly calendar will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

PICKUP/DROP OFF: Because our children spend so much of their time on the floor, we ask that parents and older siblings remove outside shoes before entering the classroom. Upon arriving for the day, a staff member will need to know when the last feeding and diaper change occurred and will sign the child in and out using the Brightwheel app on the classroom tablet. As a Joyful Noise policy, staff members are required to check the ID of any individual they do not recognize, or have not previously met upon pick-up. Please remember to carry a valid form of identification with you when picking up your child. This is especially important at the beginning of the school year, as there are sometimes new staff members who have not yet met you. If you have made arrangements for a family member or friend to pick up your child, you must notify the Joyful Noise office, either by phone call, in person, or in the form of a note. The individual must be listed on your child's emergency form (if he/she is not listed, you may add them to the form by notifying the office). We are unable to release your child without this information. When experiencing a difficult drop off we have found that reassuring the child that you will be back, that they are safe and will be taken care of along with an extra hug or two before leaving the room works well. Usually the child calms within five minutes or less. You are welcome to call the room at any time to check on the, at 616-847-3512. While it may be tempting to keep coming back into the room, we have found this only delays them from getting used to the drop off routine.

SCHEDULE: All infant care is on demand and we offer developmentally appropriate activities on an opportunity basis. For our older infants, in order to help them grow accustomed to the toddler room, we make an effort to loosely follow the toddler room schedule.

MEDICATIONS TO BE ADMINISTERED AT SCHOOL: If your child requires a medication that will need to be administered by a caregiver at school, please stop by the JN office to fill out a form or visit our website's main page: www.joyfulnoisekids.com>>>Quick Links>>>Medication Permission Form>>>GO, then download a copy of the form to print or scan and return. Medication must be in its original container, unexpired and labeled with your child's name. The caregiver will note the time and dosage administered on your child's Brightwheel daily report/feed.

MEAL TIMES: Infants under 18 months eat on demand per daycare licensing. Any bottles used for a feeding must be dumped and rinsed after one hour. Parents should bring one more bottle than needed for emergency use. Joyful Noise provides iron-fortified formula for parents who wish to use it. Breastmilk or formula prepared at home should be brought in clean, labeled bottles for the day. Water is available to children one year and older. Joyful Noise supplies baby food and table food for children who are ready to eat them. Parents are also welcome to send food in clean and labeled containers if they prefer. Infant room teachers use weekly menus and notes to communicate what foods a child can currently eat. See the FAQ supplemental document and the Center Policies for more info on meal and sleeping requirements for infants.

NAP TIME: All our napping is done on demand, per state regulation. We will try to stay as close to home schedule as possible but will follow the child's needs above all else. We are not allowed to force children to try and stay awake, or to wake them before they are ready. State regulations also state that children under the age of one may not have blankets, pillows or such in their cribs during sleep. We have found that sleep sacks are a good way to meet that need and stay within state parameters. We have a few available. If you use them at

home, bringing one in for school use is very helpful. Swaddling is only allowed up to 2 months of age. JN staff are not able to swaddle older infants per licensing regulations.

TOYS FROM HOME: Please refrain from bringing in toys from home. Lovies, taggies, or blankets are acceptable.

Infant Room Schedule: 1 Year and Over

8am-9am Breakfast & Diapers
9am-10am Diapers & Rec Room
10am-11am Outdoor Walk
11am-12pm Diapers & Lunch
12pm-3pm Naptime/Quiet Time
3pm-4pm Snack & Diapers
4pm-6pm Free play & Pick Up
* May Vary Because All Infant Care is On Demand

Infant Room Schedule: 6 Months – 12 Months

8am-9am Bottles/Breakfast/Diapers
9am-10am Morning Nap
10am-11am Outdoor Walk
11am-12pm Bottles/Lunch/Diapers
12pm-2pm Large Motor Play
2pm-3pm Bottle/Snack/Diapers
3pm-4pm Afternoon Nap
4pm-6pm Diapers/Pick Up
* May Vary Because All Infant Care is On Demand

Infant Room Schedule: 6 Months & Under

8am-9am Bottles/Breakfast/Diapers
9am-10am Morning Nap
10am-11am Outdoor Walk
11am-12pm Bottles/Lunch/Diapers
12pm-2pm Afternoon Nap
2pm-3pm Bottle/Snack/Diapers
3pm-4pm Afternoon Nap
4pm-6pm Diapers/Pick Up
* May Vary Because All Infant Care is On Demand

Infant Activities

Note: Infants are always observed for signs of overstimulation

The Senses-Cognitive Learning

VISUAL:

Face tracking
Tracking rolling bar or flashing beam
Search out—"Where did the toy go?"
Books
Mirror Time
Walks-outside and around church
Puppet Play
Peek-a-boo

AUDITORY:

Singing
Talking
Listening to music
Mimicking sounds back and forth:
"la-la-la", "ba-ba-ba", etc.
Clapping and tapping

TACTILE TOUCH:

Water/sand table
Sensory board with different textures
Ice cubes or frozen teethers on highchair tray
Scarves, silk and feathers
Pudding Paint
Bumpy Balls

Language

Basic beginning baby signs
Eye contact while talking
Mimicking sounds back and forth
Reading books together
Nursery rhymes

Quiet and Relaxing

Rocking while humming or singing
Gentle massage or rubbing
Slow waltz to soft music
Darkened and quiet room

Active Play

Peek-A-Boo
So Big
I'm going to get your_____!
This Little Piggy
Itsy Bitsy Spider
"Stretch & Grow from Head to Toe" Crunches
Bicycling Legs
Dancing with child
Balls or deflated beach balls
Blocks and Stackers
Climber
Puppet Play
Musical toys and making noise

Reasons We May Contact You About Your Child

There are many possible reasons why a caregiver may need to contact a parent concerning their child, but a few of the most important and typical reasons are highlighted here:

1. **FEVER**: If a child has a temperature of 99.4 °F taken under arm or 100.4 °F taken with a temporal thermometer.

2. **DIARRHEA:** If a child has two loose or watery stools, even if there are no sights of illness. The exception is a loose stool that is caused by a new food, but a call may be necessary to determine this.

3. **VOMITING:** Any vomiting is a reason to call a parent. The exception is that some babies may "burp up" or "spit up" after a feeding. This is not considered vomit and our staff is aware of what constitutes an actual episode of vomiting.

4. **RASH:** If your child develops a rash of any sort, we will call you. The exception is a mild diaper rash that parents are already aware of, in which case contact need not be made.

5. **CRYING AND COMPLAINING FOR A LONG TIME:** Any time a child is not "herself" or "himself" and is complaining about discomfort, cranky for an unusual amount of time or inconsolable, a phone call home to parents will be made.

6. **INJURY:** Any time your child is injured, staff will always notify you. However, if we feel that the injury sustained warrants personal contact, we will call you to make sure that you have been informed about the incident in detail. The exception is the minor injury which does not require any treatment and made an insignificant impact on child (i.e., the minor "wipe out" or mild bump of any sort).

JOYFUL NOISE INFANT DEVELOPMENTAL AND CLASSROOM GOALS

CHRISTIAN GOALS:

DI CHR 1. Infants will be exposed to the idea that God created our world and all people, and that they are special to God.

DI CHR 2. Infants will be exposed to the concept that God is love and God is good.

DI CHR 3. Caregivers will model prayer.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GOALS:

DI SOC/EM 1. Infants will be touched, cuddled and spoken to in a way that creates trust and promotes appropriate physical contact. Caregivers will provide a predictable emotional climate and consistent methods of age-appropriate discipline and consequences (see Conscious Discipline materials for your age group).

DI SOC/EM 2. Caregivers will respond to infants' needs in a consistent way that reaffirms a trusting relationship. Infants will develop a bond with primary caregivers.

DI SOC/EM 3. Primary caregivers will plan for individual, one-on-one interaction with infants assigned to their care, each day. All children will be given praise and positive feedback.

DI SOC/EM 4. Infants will be given opportunities to play and socialize with peers. Caregivers will both model and teach appropriate interaction and ideas about personal safety.

DI SOC/EM 5. Infants will begin to learn self-help skills such as self-feeding, drinking from a cup on their own, and be encouraged to express their needs through verbalizations, baby signs, or other methods.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY:

DI CLL 1. Infants will be spoken to and encouraged to make sounds, babbling, gurgling and other vocalizations that support early language.

DI CLL 2. Infants will be exposed to books, songs and finger plays that stimulate language, storytelling and literacy.

DI CLL 3. Time will be taken to plan opportunities for students to use soft books, board books, and text that caregivers read. Students will be both read to and given opportunities to explore books and illustrations on their own.

JOYFUL NOISE INFANT DEVELOPMENTAL AND CLASSROOM GOALS

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

DI PD 1. Infants will be given opportunities to explore items that produce sensory experiences, or be exposed or surrounded by items that encourage them to move, reach and grasp.

DI PD 2. Infants will be given appropriate tummy and back time and be given access to areas that allow sufficient and safe space for kicking, stretching, rolling, crawling, cruising, first steps and other milestone activities.

DI PD 3. Caregivers will plan and facilitate games and fun activities that encourage the development of all fine and gross motor skills, including vision (such as tracking objects, stimulation through colors, etc.)

DI PD 4. Infants will be exposed to ideas about healthy lifestyles and the element s of healthy habits such as balanced family style meals and snacks, water consumption and the importance of physical activity.

CRITICAL THINKING AND MATH:

DI CTM 1. Caregivers will describe actions and daily routines to infants as they are happening to increase awareness and sequencing ("We are changing your diaper. First we take your diaper off and throw it away; then we wipe your body clean").

DI CTM 2. Infants will be exposed to a variety of toys and materials that stimulate critical thinking such as large puzzles, nestable or stacking toys, or visually stimulating concept toys like sunlight catchers, spirals or liquid motion toys. Infants will be exposed to colors and shapes.

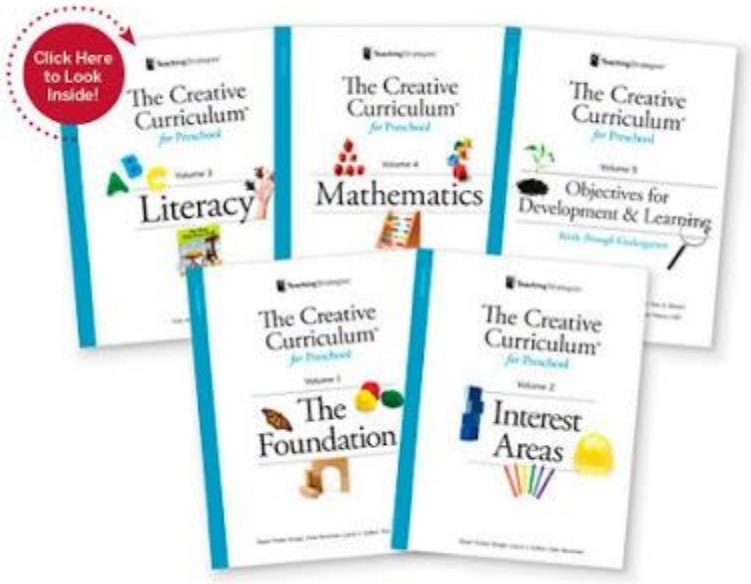
DI CTM 3. The infant classroom will provide ample items to sort and count, and teachers will begin to expose infants to counting and concepts of time through simple chants and songs ("Baby going up in 1…2….3!").

WORLD KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING:

DI WKU 1. Infants will be allowed to safely explore a wide range of interesting objects, books, and appropriate culturally diverse materials (such as multicultural dolls, board books or music).

DI WKU 2. Infants will be exposed to their outdoor environment through outdoor play, walks in the stroller, and indoor sensory activities.

DI WKU 3. Caregivers will expose infants to ideas about cause and effect through simple science experiments (such as concepts in water play) and encourage infants to appropriately respond to the world around them. Infants will be exposed to simple concepts about nature, weather and animals.



CreativeCurriculum

The country's leading integrated online assessment, program planning, and reporting system children *birth* to *age five*

In the 2015/2016 school year, thanks to $3000 of funding from the Joyful Noise C-Fund, Joyful Noise Christian Childcare was able to purchase and implement a standardized curriculum through Teaching Strategies called "Creative Curriculum." This award-winning program is based on 38 learning objectives for early childhood development and education and is supported by current research and best practice. These objectives support evidence indicating future academic success in school.

The curriculum, which begins in infancy and carries through to kindergarten preparedness, is implemented in each classroom throughout the day in a variety of ways and learning areas. Introducing a standardized curriculum into our program at Joyful Noise Christian Childcare was a step in not only supporting the best and most current teaching methods but also recognizing contemporary standards in excellence throughout the state of Michigan for licensed child care centers. Each classroom was given the curriculum for their age group, and lead teachers also attend Creative Curriculum conferences to explore teaching techniques and proper utilization of the program's lesson plans.

How is it used?

The Creative Curriculum Program for Preschool and The Creative Curriculum Program for Infants, Toddlers and Twos provides both The Foundation and Daily Resources to create a cohesive curriculum that supports teachers every step of the way throughout the year. The Foundation is the knowledge base of the curriculum, with detailed information about the most current research and best practices in early childhood education. The Teaching Guides offer daily plans to help teachers provide individualized instruction for every child and organize and manage every moment of their day, all year long.

- Creative Curriculum uses "studies" (in depth exploration of thematic topics) to expand your child's knowledge. Teachers can also create and plan for their own custom studies to tailor learning.
- Lesson plan materials include everything from conversation starters to structured activities including 38 learning objectives. (All learning areas are covered—from math, to literacy, to physical education.)

Joyful Noise Childcare toddlers implement Language and Literacy lesson "LL39" by creating a texture board with materials of different textures (paper, fabric, wood, pom-poms) and glue.

Though the lesson is open-ended and allows for exploration, children are prompted to describe their experience and use simple language to increase their understanding.

How will I know what my child is learning about each day at Joyful Noise?
Each classroom at Joyful Noise provides parents with learning information in a multitude of places:

- At **www.JoyfulNoiseKids.com >>>Parent's Area>>>Classrooms and Specials Hub**, you can find links for daily schedules, monthly lesson plans, and other relevant info that updates you on classroom events as well as highlights from classroom learning. Daily updates & reports are available in the Brightwheel app. Other important and/or sensitive information is also emailed as needed by the Lead teacher or office staff.
- Information is posted outside each classroom, which includes Creative Curriculum lesson plans, specials calendars, newsletters and weekly food menus.
- Also feel free to ask your child's teacher to see examples of Creative Curriculum materials in the classroom. Your child's teacher uses teaching guides and resources daily to facilitate the learning goals in the current "study."

Don't forget to visit the "Curriculum Menu" at www.JoyfulNoiseKids.com to read the full PDF "Touring Guide", an in-depth explanation of the preschool Creative Curriculum program, along with other school features, including Handwriting Without Tears®, Zoo-phonics® and Conscious Discipline

SUGGESTED STARTER SIGNS

Eat

Drink

More

All Done

Cat

Turtle*

Dog

Bunny

Hat

Ball

Hot*

Hurt*

Mommy

Daddy

Please*

Thank You*

Introducing brightwheel

Never Miss a Moment!

Brightwheel is an all-in-one app where you can stay connected to your child throughout the day. Get real-time updates on your phone and tablet so you never miss a moment!

Features You'll Love:

- Personalized "News Feed" of your child with photos, videos, and daily activities
- Digital check-in with real-time notifications
- Milestones and learning updates from your child's teacher
- Secure and private direct messaging
- Secure, automated payments
- Easy sharing with other family members

Our Trusted Partner

Brightwheel is the leading app for early-childhood education, trusted by thousands of schools throughout the country. The app was featured on the TV show Shark Tank for its impressive functionality, easy-to-use features, and deep commitment to the needs of schools and families. We're proud to partner with brightwheel as part of our ongoing effort to provide a world-class experience to you–our families.

Parents ♥ brightwheel

★★★★★

My son just started daycare and I was so nervous, but being able to see the pictures and different notes about him from the teacher and being able to message the teacher gives me peace of mind! I love it!!

★★★★★

I love using brightwheel. I am able to feel close to my child while I'm work, and keep up with what she's doing through her day. It's also a quick and effective way to communicate with her teachers. HIGHLY RECOMMEND!

Getting Started with brightwheel

1. Download the brightwheel App

The brightwheel app can be downloaded on your iPhone, iPad, or Android phone or tablet. Simply search for "brightwheel" in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

You can also access brightwheel from your computer by going to www.mybrightwheel.com

2. Sign Up for a Parent Account

Click "Sign Up" and create a Parent Account using an email address or cell phone number. If you received an invitation, please use the same email or phone number to which it was delivered.

3. Link Your brightwheel Account to Your Child

Go to "My Children" to find your child's profile. If your child is not there, enter the 10-digit code that was given to you. If you're having trouble, let us know and we can help!

4. Update Your Profile

Add more information about you and your child! Here's a list of things we recommend you add:

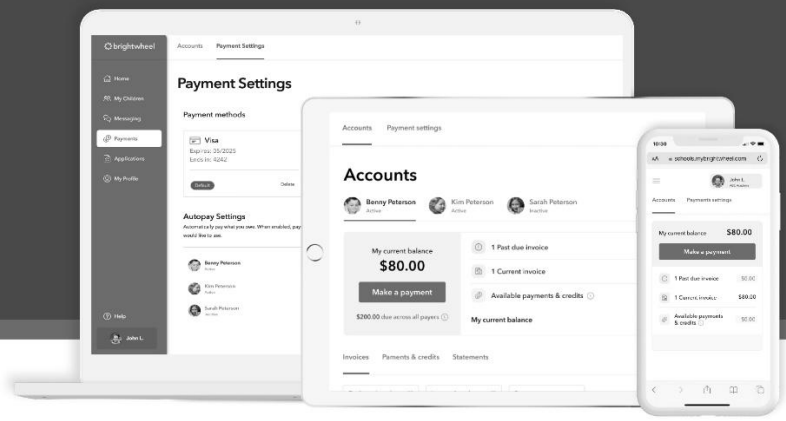
- ✓ Profile photo of your child
- ✓ Details on your child's favorite activities, allergies, etc.
- ✓ Emergency Contact information
- ✓ Approved Pickup information
- ✓ Additional family members

We're excited to be able to offer this service to you and hope that you enjoy it. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know!

brightwheel

Easily set up online tuition payments today!

Our program has partnered with brightwheel, so you can now pay tuition and access your statements quickly, easily, and securely – all from the same app.



Quick to set up

Add a bank account or credit card and you're done! You can also enable autopay to ensure your tuition is always paid on time.

Easy & flexible

Make payments, check account balances, and access year-end tax receipts from the same app, in real-time and from anywhere.

Secure to use

Directly manage your payment details, avoid cash or check, and use a system that meets the highest levels of data security and compliance (PCI Level 1).

> The brightwheel app is pure genius! I feel much more connected to my toddler. I know what she's had to eat and her nap schedule. I can message her teacher to ask questions. **And tuition payments automatically get debited. This app has made my busy mom life easier and that means so much to me.**

- Victoria, brightwheel parent App store review ★★★★★

Ready to Get Started?

Log in to the brightwheel app and go to the payment section.
To learn more visit: https://bit.ly/parentbilling

Your Child's Development in the Early Years

At Joyful Noise, we believe every child is unique and grows at their own pace. We are committed to nurturing your child's strengths and providing a supportive environment for learning and development. To ensure we're meeting the needs of all children in our care, we are proud to partner with **Sensational Steps Therapy** to offer free classroom observations and developmental screenings.

Sensational Steps Therapy is a pediatric therapy practice based in West Michigan, offering **pediatric speech and occupational therapy** using a relationship-based, play-focused approach. Sensational Steps specializes in working with children from birth through adolescence to promote a child's confidence, independence, and skills for success at home, school, and in the community. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's development at any time, please feel free to reach out to Sensational Steps Therapy directly at 616-402-6997 (www.sensationalstepstherapy.com).

Throughout the school year, developmental professionals from Sensational Steps Therapy will occasionally visit classrooms to observe children in their natural play and learning environments. These observations help our teachers gain insight into your child's development and offer ideas to support growth through play and daily activities. During these visits, they may also identify children that would benefit from additional support or a more comprehensive speech or occupational therapy evaluation.

Please complete the form below and return it to the Joyful Noise office so that we may include your child in these valuable opportunities. This is not an attempt to single out any specific child, but merely provide each child the best opportunity to thrive.

Permission for Developmental Observations

I understand that a licensed professional from Sensational Steps Therapy may observe my child's classroom throughout the school year, and I give permission for my child to be present during these observations.

Date: _____ Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Infant Food Survey

Dear Parents,

With so many of our infants growing up and reaching the table food stage all at once, we would like to avoid as much confusion and possible food allergies as we can. Thank you for filling out the form below so that we may gain insight into the foods your child may or may not be eating, and be aware of any foods that are problematic.

---

1. **Please make a list of the foods your child has or hasn't tried at home** (indicate which list by checking the boxes to your left). You may choose whichever list is the shortest. Thank you!

Please Check One:

Has NOT tried
Has tried

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. **Dairy foods can be a tricky area. Please circle the foods your child has tried at home:**

All milk eggs yogurt cheese cottage cheese ice cream

3. **Please list any known or suspected food allergy triggers:**

_____

_____

_____

Please feel free to add to or to delete from these lists as needed. We will continue to post to your child's Brightwheel feed what foods they have eaten or tried each day. Menus are posted weekly on the door, in the hallway and via Brightwheel. Please take time to check it daily. Thank you!

If we have permission to try all foods served here at Joyful Noise with your child, please initial and date here:

Thank you for your time!

Joyful Noise Infant Staff

_____

Parent Initial and Today's Date

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Infant

Please answer the following questions as accurately as possible. Your answers help provide us with insight that allows us to better care for your child! Thank you!

CHILD'S NAME:_____

CHILD'S BIRTHDAY:_____

Food allergies_____

Any other allergies_____

Does your child have any health problems, physical limitations, or special needs?_____

_____

_____

Continuous Medications (meds taken for specific conditions child may have) to be taken an J.N.
Please refer to our health policies regarding medicine permission slips and administering of medicine to child.

_____

_____

Will your child take breast milk or formula? _____

If using formula, please indicate brand: _____

How often does your child take a bottle or nurse? _____

How does your child prefer to be held during feeding (cradled, facing out, etc.)? _____

Has your child transitioned from breast to bottle successfully for at least two weeks? _____

Do you have any special burping instructions for your child (example- every 1 oz., across lap, etc.)?

_____

_____

How does your child usually go down for a nap (example- rocked to sleep, in crib by self, with pacifier or special blanket, etc.)? On stomach, back, or side? *Please note that Joyful Noise, per state licensing, is unable to use blankets in cribs and must place child on back to sleep. Children may nap in "sleep sacks", which we provide, or parents are welcome to provide.*

_____

_____

Does your child have a security or comfort item they cherish (pacifier, blanket, special toy, etc.)?

_____

Is there any special trick that might help us in comforting your child (walking, patting, singing to, etc.)?

_____

Has your child had experiences in childcare before? _____

Does your child separate from you easily? _____

What is your child's temperament (example- fussy, laid back, colicky, easy-going, etc.)? _____

_____

_____

List any concerns you may have about your child's development and/or the care they will receive here:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Daily Schedule

Please give us a rough schedule of your child's day, as it is at this present time:

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

____:____ _____

Additional Notes: