

CHILD WATCH



BETTER TOGETHER.

Child Watch Family Information



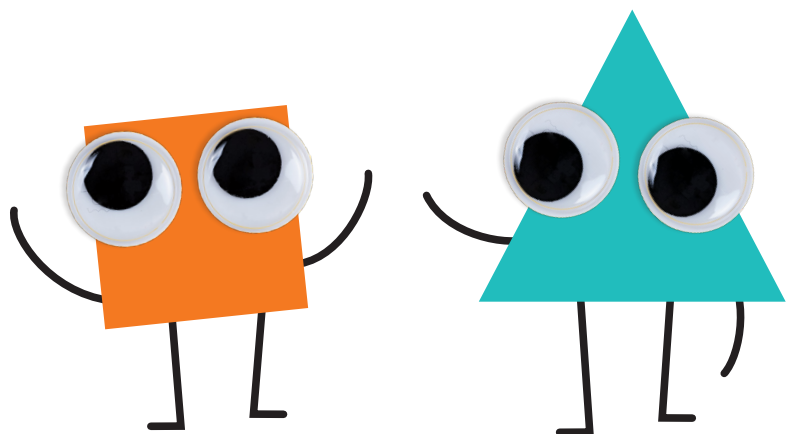
YMCA of Dane County

CHILD WATCH AT THE YMCA

Child Watch is a free child care service provided exclusively for YMCA of Dane County members with children ages 6 weeks to 9 years. Parents/guardians can use Child Watch for up to 2 hours per day while they are in the facility participating in YMCA activities. To maintain the quality and safety of the program, we reserve the right to deny participation in the best interest of the child, other participants or the program.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

CARING, HONESTY, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY AND FUN are our five core values. We strive to teach these traits every day, and they shine through in all of our programming, including Child Watch!



Visit ymcadanecounty.org/child-watch-schedules/ to see our Child Watch hours.

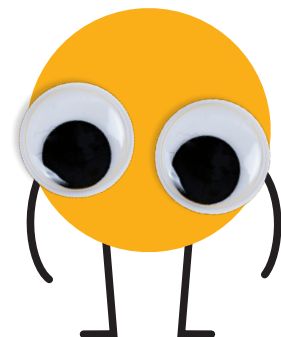
Sign in/Out Procedures

- You must be 18 or older to sign a child in or out of Child Watch.
- Children cannot go in and out of child watch; they must be signed in and out totaling a maximum of 2 hours daily. Caregivers must pick up in childwatch to correctly sign out.
- Members using Child Watch need to complete an emergency card. Each time a member uses Child Watch, they are assigned a pager number for emergencies and for sign out.
- Please use your Y member ID for drop off and pick up. A photo ID is required if you do not have your member ID.
- Please make sure your child uses the bathroom and washes their hands before entering Child Watch.
- For the safety and security of children, parents are required to stay on the YMCA property while utilizing Child Watch.

Goals and Objectives

YMCA Child Watch provides a safe and secure environment for children while their caregivers use Y facilities. Children in Child Watch can expect fun and games, free choice playtime, creative project opportunities and chances to make new friendships.

Note: YMCA staff are not permitted to provide babysitting services or other private child care outside of the Y for any child they meet in Child Watch or other YMCA programs.



Health Guidelines

Children must be healthy and able to comfortably participate in activities. Staff will only administer life-saving medication to children during their visit to Child Watch with prior written consent and approval. Children exhibiting any of the following conditions will not be admitted to Child Watch:

- Fever of 100 degrees or higher; must be free of fever, without medication, for 24 hours
- Respiratory symptoms such as sudden, unexplained wheezing, severe congestion or a bad cough
- Nasal discharge that is green, yellow or gray in color or in excessive amounts
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours
- Sore throat if accompanied by fever or rash
- Eyes that are pink, mattered or draining
- Chicken pox until all pox have dried
- Strep throat before child has been medicated for at least 24 hours
- Lice when nits are present
- Open sores or skin lesions must be fully bandaged

If your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease after a recent Child Watch visit, please contact the membership desk. This information can be shared with other members (anonymously) to inform them of possible exposure.

Personal Belongings

Please do not send personal toys to Child Watch with your child as our spaces are filled with age-appropriate toys! Comfort items such as blankets, pacifiers or sippy cups are acceptable but must be clearly marked with your child's first and last name.

Food and Beverage

Outside food is not allowed in Child Watch to protect those with food allergies. If your child has allergies, please notify a staff member. Sippy cups with water are allowed if labeled with the child's first and last name.

Recommended Attire

All children should have comfortable and appropriate clothing including socks, shoes, shirt, pants and jackets (weather appropriate). Socks are required for all infants, and shoes are required when infants become mobile (all children able to walk are required to wear shoes). Winter boots are not allowed as indoor attire, so please send appropriate indoor shoes for your child to wear during the winter months. Please bring infants and toddlers in clean, dry diapers, as well as the appropriate clothing described above including socks, shoes, shirts and pants. If your child needs changing, Child Watch staff will contact you. Staff can bottle-feed infants. Each bottle must be premade, warmed and labeled with the child's first and last name.

Child Abuse and Neglect

Under state law, all YMCA staff are considered mandated reporters for child abuse and neglect. They are required by law to report any noticed incidence of child abuse. If a staff member suspects that a child is in immediate danger, law enforcement will be contacted immediately. If a child isn't in immediate danger, Children's Protective Services will be contacted.

Special Needs/Medical Conditions

The Y is committed to providing a quality child care experience for children of all developmental abilities. Please inform our staff of your child's special needs or medical conditions, and we'll do our best to accommodate. Child Watch does not provide 1:1 staffing for children with special needs, but you may provide a PCA to accompany your child during their visit.

Communication

Caregivers are contacted immediately if:

- Your child receives an injury that requires your attention
- The daily two-hour time limit is exceeded or Child Watch is closing
- There is aggressive or inappropriate behavior
- Your child's diaper needs to be changed or caregiver assistance is needed in the bathroom
- Your child shows symptoms of illness or is unable to comfortably participate in activities
- Your child is inconsolable

Behavior Guidelines

Safety of all children in Child Watch is our first priority. We follow the following steps for persistent or aggressive behaviors:

- **First Incident:** The parent/guardian is notified, behaviors are discussed with the child and child may be asked to leave for the day.
- **Second Incident:** The parent/guardian is notified and may be asked to remove the child for the day. A conference with Y staff may be scheduled to create a behavioral plan.
- **Third Incident:** The child may be removed from Child Watch and may be required to take a break from the program for a period of time determined by the Branch Executive Director.



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