RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Regardless of the type of child care you select for your child, there are certain rights and responsibilities that parents and providers have. In the spaces below, identify who is responsible for that particular item (P=Parent, CG=Caregiver). Be prepared to explain your answer.

1. **Good communication**
   - _____ Accidents or problems should be reported immediately.
   - _____ Agreement on terms of care—a written contract is best.
   - _____ Ask questions rather than jump to conclusions if something disturbs you.
   - _____ Commitments should be upheld.
   - _____ Do not interfere in family problems.
   - _____ Do not offer advice unless asked by parents.
   - _____ Inform provider of your child's routines, activities, and likes and dislikes.
   - _____ Parents wishes should be followed (discipline, television watching, special diets, etc.)
   - _____ Questions should be welcomed and asked to you.
   - _____ You should get frequent reports on the progress of your child.
   - _____ Your expectations should be clearly defined.

2. **Accessibility**
   - _____ You should be able to visit the center at any time.
   - _____ You should be able to call your child, as you think necessary.

3. **Safety**
   - _____ Child restraints should be used when traveling.
   - _____ Electrical sockets should have safety covers.
   - _____ Stairways should be closed to a child’s use.
   - _____ The center should be, in general, childproof (no sharp objects, no poisonous substances, etc.)
4. Child care providers should provide assurance that the child is being cared for by responsible, well-trained personnel.
   
   _____ No belittling language but building of children's self esteem.
   _____ No foul language.
   _____ No teens acting as caregivers without consent.
   _____ Strangers, transportation providers, visitors, friends, or relatives should be screened.

5. Any changes in routines should be made in advance
   
   _____ 4-6 weeks notice of termination of child care.
   _____ Hours of service should be posted.
   _____ If you will be late picking up your child, let the caregiver know.
   _____ Prices should be posted.
   _____ Provider should be notified of vacations, dental/doctor appointments, or termination of care.
   _____ Surprises are not welcome.
   _____ Types of service provided should be posted.

6. Respect your care provider
   
   _____ Respect your care provider. Providing day care is not babysitting--it is a job.
   _____ Do not send children who are ill, hungry, or overly tired, unless you have informed the caregiver and he/she is in agreement with the decision.
   _____ Pay your care provider on time--no rubber checks.

7. No jealousy
   
   _____ Do not feel like you must compete for a child's love.