

Daily Practices to Protect the Children in Your Care



Keeping your child care facility clean is vital for the health, safety and well-being of children and you. One of the most important steps you can take to reduce the spread of germs (i.e. bacteria, viruses and fungi) is keeping your environment clean throughout the day.

Choose and properly use the right products to help prevent illness every day!

Always look for the EPA registration number on the product label to verify you are using a product that sanitizes or disinfects.

To clean means to physically remove dirt, germs and debris from a surface by scrubbing, washing and rinsing. It is done using soap or detergent and water.

To sanitize means to apply a product that kills 99.9% of the germs identified on its label.

To disinfect means to apply a product that kills nearly 100% of the germs identified on its label.

LOCATIONS	BEFORE EACH USE	AFTER EACH USE	DAILY
Food			
Food preparation surfaces	Clean, Sanitize	Clean, Sanitize	
Eating utensils & dishes		Clean, Sanitize	
Tables & highchair trays	Clean, Sanitize	Clean, Sanitize	
Countertops		Clean	Clean, Sanitize
Food preparation appliances		Clean	Clean, Sanitize
Mixed use tables	Clean, Sanitize		
Child Care			
Teething toys		Clean	Clean, Sanitize
Pacifiers		Clean	Clean, Sanitize
Hats			Clean
Door & cabinet handles			Clean, Disinfect
Floors			Clean
Drinking fountains			Clean, Disinfect
Toilet & Diapering			
Changing tables		Clean, Disinfect	
Potty chairs		Clean, Disinfect	
Handwashing sinks & faucets			Clean, Disinfect
Countertops			Clean, Disinfect
Toilets			Clean, Disinfect
Diaper pails			Clean, Disinfect
Floors			Clean, Disinfect

Daily Practices That Matter...

- 1 Wash your hands often
- 2 Understand the difference between **cleaning**, **sanitizing** and **disinfecting**
- 3 Choose the right product(s) for the job
- 4 Read, understand and follow instructions for time between using and rinsing products
- 5 Never mix products unless the label indicates that it is safe to do so
- 6 Store products in a locked location that children cannot access
- 7 Call the Poison help line at (800) 222-1222 if an accidental exposure occurs

For more information:

California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)
 California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
 American Cleaning Institute (ACI)

References:

Antimicrobial Pesticide Registration
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
<http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/antimicrobial-pesticide-registration>

Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, Third Edition.
<http://cfoc.nrckids.org/>

