

COVID-19 101:

Child Care

Facility Cleaning & Disinfection

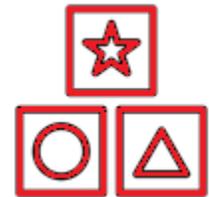


Clean and Disinfect

Staff should routinely clean, sanitize and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, especially toys and games. Objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily, such as doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops, nap pads, toilet training potties, desks, chairs, cubbies, and playground structures, should be cleaned frequently. Cleaning products should not be used near children, and staff should make sure that there is good ventilation when using these products so that children do not breathe toxic fumes.

Clean and Sanitize Toys & Bedding

- Toys that children have placed in their mouths or are contaminated by body secretion or excretion should be set aside until they are cleaned by a person wearing gloves.
- Provide enough toys so that the toys can be rotated through cleanings.
- Take care with items likely to be placed in a child's mouth, like play food, dishes, and utensils.
- Wash with soapy water, rinse, sanitize with an EPA-registered disinfectant, and air-dry; or, clean in a mechanical dishwasher.
- Toys, particularly cloth toys, should be machine washed before being used by another child.
- Toys should not be shared between groups of infants or toddlers unless they are washed and sanitized before sharing.
- Place toys that need to be cleaned in a dish pan with soapy water or put in a separate container marked for "soiled toys."
- Keep the dish pan and water out of reach from children to prevent risk of drowning.
- Use bedding (sheets, pillows, blankets, sleeping bags) that can be washed.
- Keep each child's bedding separate; consider storing in individually labeled bins, cubbies, or bags.



Caring for Infants and Toddlers

- When diapering a child, wash your hands and the child's hands before you begin.
- Wear gloves, if possible.
- After diapering, wash your hands (even if you were wearing gloves) and disinfect the diapering area with a fragrance-free bleach or other fragrance-free product that is EPA-registered as a sanitizing or disinfecting solution.
- If the surface is dirty, clean it with detergent/soap and water prior to disinfection.
- If using cloth diapers, do not rinse or clean them in the facility.
- The soiled cloth diaper and its content (without emptying or rinsing) should be placed in a plastic bag or into a plastic-lined, hands-free covered diaper pail to give to parents/guardians or laundry service.
- When washing, feeding, or holding very young children:
 - Staff can protect themselves by wearing an over-large button-down, long sleeved shirt and keeping long hair off the collar in a ponytail or other updo.
 - Staff should wash their hands, neck and anywhere touched by a child's secretions.
 - Staff should change children's clothes if secretions are on the clothes.
 - Staff should change the button-down shirt, if there are secretions on it, and wash their hands again.
 - Contaminated clothes should be placed in a plastic bag or washed in a washing machine.
 - Infants, toddlers, and their providers should have multiple changes of clothes at child care center or home-based child care.



Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior

- Upon arrival to the facility and after breaks
- Before and after preparing food or drinks
- Before and after administering medication or medical ointment
- After diapering
- After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After handling animals or cleaning up animal waste
- After playing outdoors or in sand
- After handling garbage
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers (60% ethanol or 70% isopropyl alcohol) can be used.
- Supervise children when they use hand sanitizer to prevent tasting or drinking.
- Assist children with handwashing, including infants who cannot wash hands alone.

