

**Playground Observation**

Observe an outdoor play area for young children and observe the following:

(You will need a measuring tape and a tool to measure depth)

**Surfacing:**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Climbing equipment has surfacing material underneath.		
Surfacing material is of appropriate depth for height of equipment (refer to attached page). Measure depth at all fall zones: underneath end of slide <input type="checkbox"/> , underneath swings <input type="checkbox"/> at edges of platforms <input type="checkbox"/> , overhead ladders <input type="checkbox"/> , see saws <input type="checkbox"/> , other <input type="checkbox"/> .		
The following surfacing materials are not used underneath play equipment the children can climb: asphalt, concrete, soil, hard packed dirt, grass, turf, linoleum, carpeting.		

**Fall Zones:**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Fall zones (the areas which a child falling from or exiting from a piece of equipment do not overlap).		
Impact absorbing surfacing materials extends at least 6 feet beyond all sides of the equipment (measure).		
For to-fro swings: the impact-absorbing surfacing material extends in front and back of the swings a distance that measure twice the height of swing beam.		
For slides: the impact-absorbing surfacing material extends at least 6 feet from the end of the slide chute.		

**Protrusions and Entanglements:**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
There are no equipment pieces that could catch clothing. There are no strings or loose items on children's clothing or around children's necks that could get caught on play equipment.		
Any exposed bolts do not protrude more than two threads beyond the fact of the nut; exposed bolts have no burrs or sharp edges.		
There are no open "S" hooks (check swings).		
There are no openings in any pieces of active play equipment between 3 ½ and 9 inches that could cause head entrapment.		
Fences under 4 feet in height have no protrusions on top.		

**Pinch, Crush and Shearing Points**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
All spaces are too big or too small to entrap a child's finger.		
There are no splinters on wooden equipment, benches or tables.		
All corners are rounded, especially at exit ends and sides along a slide bed.		
Exposed ends of tubing have caps that cannot be removed without tools.		

**Equipment Spacing**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
There are at least 6 feet of sue space on all sides of each piece of equipment		
Traffic patterns are designed to prevent children from bumping into each other.		
Play equipment pieces are spaced at least 12 feet apart from each other (each has its own 6 foot use space).		
Bike paths that circle around are wide enough for 2 bikes to pass.		

### Maintenance

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Daily checks include: broken glass, animal waste, trash, toxic plants or plant debris, damage by vandals, displaced surfacing, broken equipment, chipping paint, puddles of water, insect hazard, need for lubrication of moving parts.		
All hardware fasteners, permanent coverings or connecting devices are tight and cannot be removed without tools.		
All surfaces are intact.		
There is no peeling paint.		
All structures are sturdy enough that they will not move or tip over when the weight of an adult is put against them.		
Equipment is dried off before children are allowed to use.		

### Supervision

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
All areas where children play are in view of an adult at all times.		
Every child is accounted for at all times by a supervising adult.		
Children are allowed to play in a way that challenges them, but are prevented from taking risks that puts themselves or others at risk of serious injury.		
When adults must leave the play area for any reason, including aiding a child, supervision remains secure and consistent (for pre-school age children, a ratio of 10-1 is maintained).		

Please add any other observations, either issues of concern or examples of safety.

## Indoor Health and Safety Observation

Observe a program for young children at a meal or snack time, and observe the following:

### General Indoor Area

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Floors are smooth and have non-skid surfaces.		
Rugs do not cause tripping hazards. They are secured to the floor with adhesive or have heavy furniture on them; no curled edges.		
Doors in children's areas have see-through panes so children are visible to anyone opening the door.		
Glass doors and windows at children's level are protected.		
Windows cannot be opened more than 6 inches from the bottom.		
All windows have closed, permanent screens.		
Walls and ceilings have no peeling paint and no cracked or falling plaster.		
Safety covers are on all electrical outlets (check electrical strips for covers).		
Electrical cords are out of reach of children		
Water children use for washing hands is at a comfortable temperature (check to touch).		
Trash is covered at all times and is stored away from heat source.		
Furniture edges are rounded or covered with corner guards.		
Emergency evacuation routes (primary and secondary routes) are posted near door.		
All adults can easily view all areas used by children.		
Pets are maintained in a sanitary manner.		
Poisonous plants are not present indoors or outdoors.		
All poisons and any items marked "keep out of reach of children" are stored in locked cabinets, out of reach of children (bleach and water solution may be kept out, but must be inaccessible to children).		
All adult handbags are stored out of reach of children.		
Heavy equipment or furniture that may tip over is anchored.		
Staff ratios are always maintained (4-1 for children under 3; 10-1 for children ages 3-5)		
A first aid kit is accessible to all caregivers.		

### Toys and Equipment

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Toys and play equipment have no sharp edges or points, small parts, pinch points, chipped paint, splinters or loose nuts and bolts.		
Toys are put away when not in use.		
Toys that are mouthed are washed after each use.		
Children do not have access to balloons or plastic bags.		
Toys are too large to fit completely into a child's mouth. No coins, safety pins, marbles, small art materials, or sensory materials for children under 3 years of age.		
Food does not cause choking hazards; popcorn, raisins, hot dogs, carrots, uncut round foods such as grapes and olives for children under 3.		
Cribs and highchairs are properly used according to age and weight of infants, and kept away from electrical cords or other strings.		
No infant walkers are used.		

Handwashing (Adults) and Sanitizing

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
All adults observed washed their hands upon entering the classroom. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All adults observed washing their hands before preparing and/or handling food. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All adults observed washing hands after assisting children with toileting or diapering. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All adults observed washing hands after assisting children with bodily fluids such as nose wiping. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All adults observed washing hands after touching garbage can lid, floor or other potential germ area. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
Sink used for handwashing before meals is different from sink used after toileting, or, if same sink is used it is sanitized before meal handwashing.		
Tables are cleaned and sanitized before meals.		
Tables and floors are cleaned when needed.		
Diapering area is sanitized after each use.		

Handwashing (Children)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
All children observed washed their hands upon entering the classroom. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All children observed washing their hands before meals, snacks or cooking projects. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All children observed washing hands after toileting or diapering. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All children observed washing hands after contact with bodily fluids such as nose wiping. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		
All children observed washing hands after touching garbage can lid, floor or other potential germ area. <input type="checkbox"/> - yes <input type="checkbox"/> - no		