
UNIT: CHILDCARE**TOPIC: Safety Awareness**
TIMELINE: Day 2

OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify common safety hazards and methods of accident prevention.
2. Discuss how to handle emergency situations.

MOTIVATOR/INTRODUCTION:

Have a bulletin board display of accidents that have happened to children. Discuss the accidents with the class. Which accidents could have been prevented? Was the caregiver at fault? How would you feel if you had been responsible for any of the children?

INFORMATION:

1. EMERGENCY GUIDE.
2. TEN TIPS FOR SAFETY.

INDIVIDUALIZED ACTIVITIES:

GROUP ACTIVITIES:

1. Family Feud Game
2. Spot the Safety Hazards

CHALLENGE PROJECTS:

SUMMARY:

Safety is an issue that we all must be concerned with daily. Caregivers for children must be especially careful to observe safety practices due to the legal implications involved.

RESOURCES:

EMERGENCY GUIDE

DIRECTIONS: Read the following situations to students. Have them write down the emergency procedure they would take in each case.

Discuss correct procedures to deal with the following emergency situations:

1. **CHOKING**--Children less than a year old: Place the child face down over your arm with the head lower than the trunk. Resting your forearm on your thigh to support the weight of the baby, hit the child four times between the shoulder blades with the heel of your other hand.

Children more than one year old: A small child should lie on his or her back. A larger child should stand. Place the heel of your hand on the child's abdomen and your other hand on top of the first. Press firmly but gently into the abdomen with a rapid inward and upward thrust. This procedure is known as the abdominal thrust. Repeat 6 to 10 times until the child expels the object.
WARNING: Do not practice the abdominal thrust as serious damage could occur.
2. **FRACTURES--SPRAINS**--Check for pain or swelling. Do not move the suspicious fracture or sprain. Never move a child who may have a head or back injury--call 911. For a sprain, apply cold compresses, and elevate the injured part.
3. **CONVULSIONS**--Protect the child from injury. Place the child on his or her side with the head lower than the hips. Do not put anything in the child's mouth. Call the doctor or 911.
4. **ANIMAL BITES**--Wash the wound with soap and water and call the doctor. Locate and identify the animal for possible rabies.
5. **NOSEBLEEDS**--Sit the child down. Squeeze his/her nostrils between your thumb and index finger for at least 5 minutes. Do not tip the head backwards as the child may choke on blood. If the bleeding will not stop, call the doctor.
6. **SKIN WOUNDS**--For bruises, apply cold compresses for 30 minutes. For cuts, apply direct pressure with a clean cloth until the bleeding stops. Wash with soap and water and put on an adhesive bandage. If the cut is large or deep, keep up the pressure and call 911. For puncture wounds, wash with soap and water and call the doctor. Do not try to remove large objects.
7. **POISONING**--Decide exactly what was taken and how much: know the child's age and weight. Take the bottle of poison with you to the phone, if possible. Dial the Poison Control Center. If the child is unconscious, drowsy, convulsing, or having difficulty breathing, call 911.

CHILD CARE~~~~~INFORMATION continued

8. INSECT STINGS--Remove the stinger by scraping it with your fingernail; do not pull it out. Once it is removed, apply a cold compress. Check for hives, paleness, weakness, nausea, tightness in the chest, and difficulty in breathing. If these occur, call 911.
9. BURNS--Place the burn under cool running water or cover with a towel soaked in cold water. For burns on the face, hands, feet, or genitals, call the doctor. For deep burns, call 911.
10. HEAD INJURIES--Check for unconsciousness, drowsiness, convulsions, inability to move any body part, severe headache and oozing of blood or water from the ears or nose. Call the doctor.

TEN TIPS FOR SAFETY

DIRECTIONS: Read the following safety tips. Have the students record the sentences in their Caregiver's Guide. Posting word strips as you review this information would be helpful.

1. NEVER LEAVE A SMALL CHILD ALONE AT ANY TIME.
2. KEEP THE CHILD AWAY FROM ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT OR HOT OBJECTS. (electric cords, outlets, open fires, hot radiators, stoves.)
3. KEEP GATES CLOSED OR HAVE A BARRIER ACROSS THE TOP OF STAIRS.
4. KEEP DANGEROUS OBJECTS OUT OF CHILDREN'S REACH.
(small objects like marbles, buttons, coins; sharp objects like knives, scissors, pins, needles; medicines like aspirins or any pills; cleaning powders or liquids. insecticides or other chemicals; guns, nail polish, cosmetics, plastic bags)
5. DO NOT LET CHILDREN RUN AROUND WITH SHARP OBJECTS IN THEIR MOUTHS. (pencils, lollipops)
6. KEEP POT HANDLES TURNED TO THE INSIDE ON THE STOVETOP.
7. KEEP CHILDREN AWAY FROM WATER UNLESS SUPERVISED CONSTANTLY. (ditches, wading pools, bath tubs, diaper pails).
8. TEACH CHILDREN HOW TO USE THEIR TOYS SAFELY.
9. TEACH CHILDREN TO PICK UP THEIR TOYS WHEN THEY ARE FINISHED PLAYING WITH THEM.
10. TEACH CHILDREN TO STAY OUT OF THE STREET.