



Benton County Daycare Newsletter

Winter 2008

Hello Everyone!

We are at that time of the year where we are all going a little stir crazy due to the cold weather and long winter months! Hang in there! Spring is just around the corner. Incorporating indoor exercise as part of a daily routine will help those little ones burn off that excess energy.

CHANGING PADS:

Some providers are reporting it is hard to locate nonabsorbent diaper changing pads without having to buy the whole changing table! Some providers are using plastic place mats and we are accepting this. Another provider found a portable changing pad that is now available in Target or Walmart located in the baby supply section that costs between \$6.00 and \$8.00. It is portable, folds up and closes with straps and a snap. Comes in blue or pink. There is also a website to order them. www.patemm.com. Thanks Julie

Stearns Benton Child Care Association

Do you need a break?
Do you need to sit down and have some adult conversation?
Would you like some easy new activities to take home? Would you like to receive helpful suggestions to problems, win a door prize, meet a new friend, eat chocolate, relax and laugh...THEN....join the association!
Call Cynde Hammerel at 252-0018.

Two Rule Reminders As Spring Approaches....

#1. 9502.0415 Subp. 12.

Written permission must be obtained from the parent to allow a school age child in care to participate in activities away from the residence.

We are recommending that parents sign a permission form for any age child to leave the residence for such activities as walks, going to the local park, riding bikes in a cul-de-sac, sledding on public property, etc. This is required for school aged children but recommended for any age to reduce your liability.

#2. Use of Garages. Very few garages are licensable and in fact are licensed. If you use your garage for a play area it MUST be licensed. If parents are walking through your garage to bring children in and out of the home, the garage MUST be licensed. If kids are going in and out of garage to grab toys then it MUST be licensed. Please be conscious of these rules. So many tools, toxins and various dangerous items are stored in garages. Bottom line, children can never be in a garage unless it has been inspected and approved by the county.

POISON CONTROL:

Immediately call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222 if you suspect a child has swallowed poison. Swallowing ipecac syrup to cause vomiting is no longer recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Keep all medicines, insect sprays, household cleaners, paint, bleach and perfumes locked and out of reach. Teach the children to ask an adult before they ever put anything in their mouth. **50% of all poisonings occur in the home to children under age 5.**

Source: Smart Living

EMAIL:

We want everyone's email address so that information about local trainings can be sent, please call or email me at nburwick@co.benton.mn.us

Call Natalie with any questions. My office hours at Mon-Wed and number is 968-5102. I am frequently out doing home visits, but I will return all calls as quickly as possible.

Please call or email with suggestions or ideas for future newsletters.

