

SUPERVISION TIPS

Please refer to the following list for important things to consider **when interacting with children** around supervision:

1. Enough teachers present to watch children in all areas
2. Teachers positioned to see all areas
3. Teachers move around as needed
4. Teachers intervene when problem occurs
5. Infants/toddlers within sight and easy to reach
6. Positive verbal and physical teachers-child interactions
 - Teacher uses positive words to guide children
 - Teacher uses a calm and warm voice and maintains physical proximity
 - Teacher frequently refers to a child by name
 - Teacher uses please, thank you and your welcome
 - Teacher kneels or sits at children's level to talk and listen
 - Teacher praises child for a new skill or accomplishment (ex. a pat on the back, high five)
 - Teachers smile and talk throughout the day
7. Warm and responsive affection is shown throughout the day in routines or play:
 - Cuddle child during bottle feeding
 - Comfort an upset, angry or hurt child
 - Help child relax during nap
8. Teachers are proactive and monitor the classroom to prevent problems from developing
9. Classroom rules are posted in the room in short simple statements accompanied with visual pictures
10. Classroom rules and expectations are clearly, consistently and positively enforced

Important things to consider during **meals/snacks**:

1. Meals/snack times are intended to be enjoyable and offer opportunities to incorporate learning (where food comes from, counting, colors etc.)
2. Teacher sits with children during meals/snack times
3. Teacher encourages language development by asking open-ended and follow-up questions during meal times
4. Teacher extends and elaborates children's conversations using a variety of words
5. Meal times provide a great opportunity to reinforce new concepts, share feelings, build relationships
6. Teacher cuddles infant during bottle feed

Important things to consider while protecting the safety of children during **diapering/toileting**:

1. Teacher is within sight of children during toileting to ensure that proper sanitary procedures such as toilet flushing and hand washing are carried out.
2. Singing a song while hand washing makes it fun and enjoyable for the children
3. Teacher talks to infant during diapering routine; infant is never left unattended while diapering.

Important things to consider while protecting children's safety **indoors/outdoors**:

1. Infants, toddlers, and preschoolers must be within sight except for momentary lapses.¹
2. Children should not be left where you cannot see, hear or reach them
3. Sand and water play must always be closely supervised to ensure no drinking or eating of play material.
4. Supervision must be provided near all areas of potential danger (play structures, water, swings etc.),

Important things to consider during **nap/rest times**:

1. Nap/rest times are pleasant, soft music is playing, a familiar routine is carried out
2. Patting children on the back is encouraged to help children relax.
3. Teacher is able to see and hear children during nap/rest times

¹ A momentary lapse in supervision is defined as 2-4 minutes. If children are out of sight, they must be within hearing range. For family child care it is usually necessary for providers to leave children for short periods of time, for example to use bathroom, prepare food, answer the door, phone etc. The provider is only allowed limited, momentary lapses.