

# STEPS TO A PEST-FREE INDOOR ENVIRONMENT

## Kitchen

Store food in tightly sealed containers.

Keep area around and under refrigerator clean and dry.

Clean the refrigerator every 6 months.

## Bathroom

Fix leaks right away.

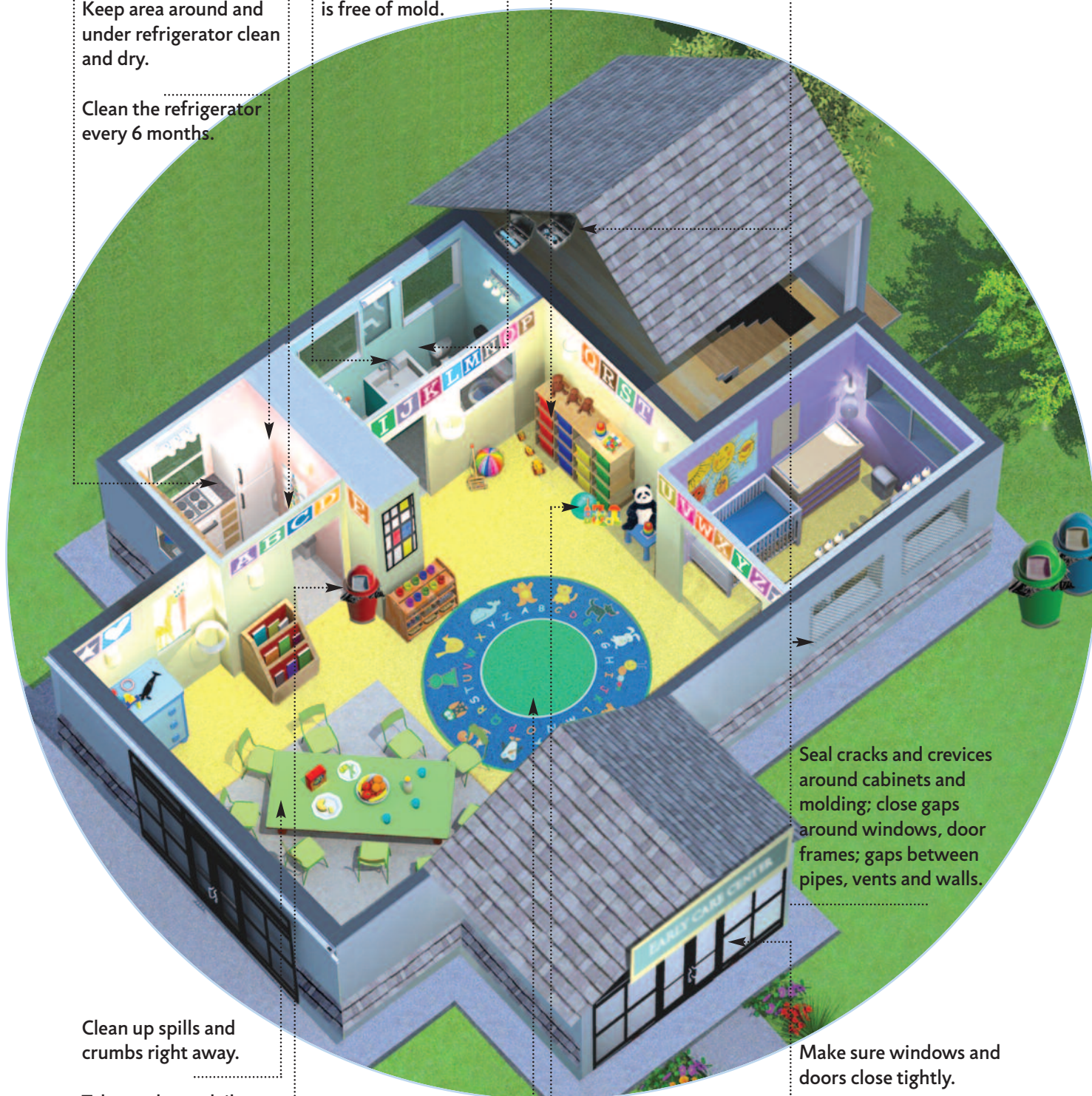
Make sure bathroom is free of mold.

## Common Area

Use plastic bins with lids for storage, not cardboard boxes.

## General

Place bait stations and traps out of reach of children.



Clean up spills and crumbs right away.

Take trash out daily.

Seal cracks and crevices around cabinets and molding; close gaps around windows, door frames; gaps between pipes, vents and walls.

Make sure windows and doors close tightly.

Minimize clutter and hiding places for pests.

Mop and vacuum floors daily.



# STEPS TO A PEST-FREE OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

## Distances

Trees and shrub branches are 6 feet from building.

Plants are at least 12 inches from building.

Yellowjacket traps are 50 feet from where children play.

Foundation comes up at least 12 inches above soil level.  
Water drains away from building.

## General

Walls and foundation are free of cracks or holes.

## Garbage

## Windows and doors

Close tightly.

Screens are free of holes or gaps.

Water sources are free of drips or leaks

Wood chips, mulch and debris are at least 6 inches from building.

Garbage area is located 50 feet from the building.

Domed lid garbage receptacles are lined with plastic.

Garbage receptacles have tight fitting lids.

Area around receptacles is free of spilled liquids and garbage.

Garbage receptacles are located on a hard, cleanable surface such as concrete.

# HOW TO CHOOSE A PESTICIDE TO MANAGE PESTS

## CHOOSE



**Traps, baits, and gels effectively manage pests because:**

- ▶ Pests, such as ants and cockroaches, take the pesticide back to the nest or hiding places where it kills the whole colony.
- ▶ The pesticide is contained (doesn't evaporate) and doesn't expose staff and children.
- ▶ Last longer than sprays.

## USE CAUTION



**Foggers and sprays do not effectively manage pests because they:**

- ▶ Evaporate quickly.
- ▶ Kill pests you can see, but do not kill the pests hiding and breeding in out-of-the-way places.
- ▶ Cause pests to run away and hide, only to return later.
- ▶ Can spread pesticides throughout your facility and expose children and staff.

# HOW TO READ A PESTICIDE LABEL



Read the label of any pesticide to identify the name, ingredients, directions, and potential harmful effects on children and staff. Remember pesticides should be used as a last resort. The following is a quick overview of key things to look for on the label:

<p><b>PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS</b></p> <p>The <b>precautionary statements</b> describe potential harmful effects to people, animals or the environment and actions you can take to reduce those effects, like wearing gloves or other personal protective equipment.</p>	<p><b>PRODUCT NAME<sup>®</sup></b></p> <p>COMMON NAME _____</p> <p>CHEMICAL NAME _____</p> <p>ACTIVE INGREDIENT _____%</p> <p>INERT INGREDIENTS _____%</p> <p>The <b>product or brand name</b> is prominently displayed on the front label. Brand names are different from active ingredients.</p>	<p><b>KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN</b></p> <p>The <b>active ingredient</b> is the chemical that kills the pest.</p> <p><b>Inert or other ingredients</b> do not directly kill the pests, but instead help the active ingredients work.</p>
<p><b>DIRECTIONS FOR USE</b></p> <p>The <b>directions for use</b> tell you where, when and how to use the pesticide safely and when to re-enter the treated area. <b>Follow these directions precisely.</b> This section also tells you what kind of pest this product was designed to kill.</p>	<p><b>FIRST AID</b></p> <p><b>STATEMENT OF TREATMENT</b></p> <p>IF SWALLOWED.....</p> <p>IF INHALED.....</p> <p>IF ON SKIN.....</p> <p>IF ON EYES.....</p> <p>The <b>first aid</b> section tells you what to do if the product is swallowed, breathed in (inhaled), or has made contact with the skin or eyes.</p>	<p><b>INDOOR SURFACES</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p><b>OUTDOOR SURFACES</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p><b>CAUTION</b></p> <p>The <b>signal words</b> such as Caution, Warning, Danger, or Danger–Poison refer to the short-term or acute effects of the active ingredient.</p>
<p><b>STORAGE &amp; DISPOSAL</b></p> <p>The <b>storage and disposal</b> instructions tell you how to store and dispose of leftover pesticides.</p>	<p>MFG. BY _____</p> <p>CITY, STATE _____</p> <p>ESTABLISHMENT NO _____</p> <p>EPA REGISTRATION NO _____</p> <p>NET CONTENTS _____</p> <p>The Environmental Protection Agency <b>registration number</b> ensures that the pesticide and the language on the label have been reviewed by the U.S. EPA.</p>	<p><b>HAZARD TO</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p><b>WARRANTY STATEMENT</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

For more information on reading a pesticide label, see the U.S. EPA “Read the Label First” – [www.epa.gov/pesticides/label/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/label/index.html).