

# GREEN CLEANING, SANITIZING, AND DISINFECTING IN CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

NAME OF PROGRAM

DATE

Our program practices green cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting. In order to improve indoor air quality, enhance and protect the health of children and staff, and foster a healthy learning environment we:

1. Provide families, staff, and outside cleaning contractors with:
  - ▶ A list of approved cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting products;
  - ▶ Procedures for how and when to safely use cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting products in the facility;
  - ▶ Procedures for safe product dilution (if concentrates are used);
  - ▶ Print and online resources on green cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting.
2. Keep Safety Data Sheets on-hand for all chemicals used.
3. Use sanitizers and disinfectants with an EPA-registration number. Keep products in their original containers.
4. Monitor the facility for products not approved for use.
5. Train staff who apply cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting products on safe handling practices in compliance with California Healthy Schools Act requirements and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. Provide training when hired and annually thereafter, or sooner if using new products. Maintain training records.
6. Provide personal protective equipment for our employees to use when it is necessary.
7. Provide dilution stations and label diluted products with contents and date mixed (if concentrates are used).
8. For cleaning, use soaps or all-purpose cleaners:
  - ▶ Without added antibacterial ingredients or fragrances;
  - ▶ Certified to be safer for human health and the environment by a third-party program, for example Green Seal, EcoLogo, and EPA Safer Choice.
9. Use asthma-safer sanitizing and disinfecting products with an active ingredient of hydrogen peroxide, citric acid, or lactic acid; or EPA

Design for Environment certification.

10. Ventilate the area as much as possible while cleaning to minimize exposure.

## To reduce the spread of infectious disease:

1. We follow the Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards 3rd Edition: Appendix K Schedule for Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting.
2. Bedding (sheets, pillows, blankets, sleeping bags) are made of materials can be washed. Each child's bedding is kept separate from other children's bedding, on the bed or stored in individually labeled bins, cubbies, or bags.
3. Carpets are vacuumed daily, in good repair, nonflammable, and nontoxic.
4. Any surface contaminated with body fluids (saliva, mucus, vomit, urine, stool, blood) is cleaned and disinfected immediately using standard precautions.
5. Countertops/tabletops, floors, doors and cabinet handles are cleaned and sanitized daily and when soiled.
6. In the toilet areas, toilets, toilet seats, toilet handles, door knobs/cubicle handles and floors are cleaned and sanitized daily, or immediately if visibly soiled. Handwashing sinks, faucets, surrounding counters, and soap dispensers are cleaned and sanitized daily and when soiled.
7. All of the food preparation, food service, and dining areas are cleaned and sanitized before and after use.
8. We encourage frequent handwashing using gentle soap and running water.

*Modified from Green Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting: A Curriculum for Early Care and Education, available at: [cerch.berkeley.edu/resources/educational-materials](http://cerch.berkeley.edu/resources/educational-materials). (see Toolkit section).*

**Resource:** OSHA Info Sheet: *Protecting Workers Who Use Cleaning Chemicals* [www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2012-126/pdfs/2012-126.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2012-126/pdfs/2012-126.pdf).