

Safety Plan - The Big Backyard, LLC

The safety of the children playing in our facility is our number one priority. Accidents do happen on playgrounds. This safety plan is designed to prevent as many accidents as possible and to minimize the potential for injury for the accidents that do occur. The National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS) evaluates playground safety on four categories: Supervision, Fall Surfacing, Age-Appropriate Design, and Equipment Maintenance. You will see all four of these items addressed in this plan.

Clear Rules

Rules for play will be included on the waiver form signed by adults and posted both in the entry way and inside the playground. The rules will be written out for parents and pictorially shown so that non-reading children also understand the rules. The signs will be designed to be graphically appealing to children. Before entering the playground for the first time, the owner/employee will go over the rules with the children.

The “General Rules” posted will be:

- Adults must supervise their children at all times.
- Outside food may not be brought into the facility.
- Food must remain in the bistro area.
- No smoking allowed.
- If anything is wrong with the equipment or someone gets hurt, notify an employee or owner.

The “Rules of Play” posted will be:

- Socks must be worn (no shoes or bare feet).
- Only one child on a slide at a time.
- No going up the slides.
- No rough play or harsh language.
- No food, gum or beverages allowed on the play equipment.

Adults: If you see any children not following these rules, please see the owners.

Safe Equipment

The large play set will be professionally installed and purchased from a reputable manufacturer. The equipment has numerous safety features including recessed hardware, no sharp corners, high visibility vertical safety rails, fastener-free play surfaces, big-beam construction and an exclusive triple bracket system for rock solid design.

In addition, we will not have monkey bars or swings, as these are the pieces of playground equipment that lead to the most injuries. There will also be safety surfacing under the larger play

set designed to withstand a six foot fall height. The playground layout will include the US Consumer Product Safety Division recommended six foot perimeter around both the large play set and the toddler play equipment.

One of the biggest safety features of The Big Backyard, LLC will be the separate age-appropriate play areas. The infants and toddlers will have places to play where the equipment is designed for their age and height. Both the infant and toddler areas will have padding under the entire area to cushion any falls that do occur.

All equipment will be cleaned daily to eliminate germs and provide an opportunity to inspect the equipment. In addition to the regular inspections, we will have a detailed inspection of the play structures by the manufacturer on a yearly basis.

Training

The owners, as well as any future full-time employees, will be trained in child CPR in case of emergencies. In addition, the owners and employees will each complete the Playground Supervision for Childcare Workers course through the National Program for Playground Safety.

Procedures

Upon entering The Big Backyard, LLC all parents and/or caretakers will be required to sign a liability waiver form which will be kept on file. This form will collect the children's names, addresses, phone numbers, birthday, and parents' e-mail. We will record each child's entrance and exit time both for safety and our records. This policy will allow us to know who is inside the facility and how many are present at any given time. We can then manage to our building code and the playground equipment child limits. Upon subsequent visits, a waiver form will not need to be completed, but patrons will still need to sign in and out.

As accidents can still occur, the following accident procedures will be followed:

1. Assess the situation. If there is a chance of increasing injury by moving the child, he/she will remain stationary until emergency response has arrived.
2. If the injury is less serious but requires first aid, the child and parent/caregiver will be taken to the office to receive care. A Red Cross Deluxe First Aid Kit will be located in the office.
3. Once the injury is taken care of appropriately, an accident report will be completed by the owner/employee that managed the situation and this will be kept on file.