

Chapter 1 : Children's Special Services

The my Good Growing email newsletter offers health and safety information for children from newborn to Subscribe Center for Children With Special Needs.

ShareCompartir We all want to keep our children safe and secure and help them to be happy and healthy. Preventing injuries and harm is not very different for children with disabilities compared to children without disabilities. However, finding the right information and learning about the kinds of risks children might face at different ages is often not easy for parents of children with disabilities. There are steps that parents and caregivers can take to keep children with disabilities safe. To keep all children safe, parents and caregivers need to:

Know and learn about what things are unique concerns or a danger for their child. Plan ways to protect their child and share the plan with others. **What Parents and Caregivers Can Do?** Once you have ideas about keeping your child safe, make a safety plan and share it with your child and other adults who might be able to help if needed. Here are some things to think about when making a safety plan for your child:

Moving Around and Handling Things Does your child have challenges with moving around and handling things around them? Sometimes children are faced with unsafe situations, especially in new places. Children who have limited ability to move, see, hear, or make decisions, and children who do not feel or understand pain might not realize that something is unsafe, or might have trouble getting away. Take a look around the place where your child will be to make sure every area your child can reach is safe for your child. For example, clothing and toys that are meant for older children might have strings that are not safe for a child who cannot easily untangle themselves, or toys might have small parts that are not safe for children who are still mouthing toys.

Safety Equipment Do you have the right kind of safety equipment? Safety equipment is often developed for age and size, and less for ability. For example, a major cause of child death is motor vehicle crashes. Keeping your child safe in the car is important. If you have a child with disabilities, talk to your healthcare professional about the best type of car seat or booster seat and the proper seat position for your child. You can also ask a certified child passenger safety technician who is trained in special needs. Other examples of special safety equipment: Life jackets may need to be specially fitted for your child. Smoke alarms that signal with a light and vibration may be better in a home where there is a child who cannot hear. Hand rails and safety bars can be put into homes to help a child who has difficulty moving around or a child who is at risk for falling. Speak to your healthcare professional about the right equipment for your child and have this equipment ready and available before you may need it.

Talking and Understanding Does your child have problems with talking or understanding? Children who have problems communicating might have limited ability to learn about safety and danger. For example, children who cannot hear might miss spoken instructions. Children who have trouble understanding or remembering might not learn about safety as easily as other children. Children who have a hard time communicating might not be able to ask questions about safety. Adults might think that children with disabilities are aware of dangers when they actually are not. Parents and caregivers may need to find different ways to teach their children about safety, such as:

Showing them what to do Using pretend play to rehearse **Practicing on a regular basis** Parents and caregivers may need to find different ways to let their children communicate that they are in danger. Tell adults who take care of your child about the ways to communicate with your child if there is any danger. Read more about preparing for emergencies.

Making Decisions Does your child have problems with making decisions? Children might have limited ability to make decisions either because of developmental delays or limits in their thinking skills, or in their ability to stop themselves from doing things that they want, but should not do. People often put more dangerous things higher up, so that little children cannot reach them. Your older child might be able to reach something that he or she is not ready to handle safely. Some children might also have problems distinguishing when situations and people are safe or dangerous. They might not know what to do. Parents and caregivers can give children specific instructions on how to behave in certain situations that might become dangerous. Read more about bullying and wandering.

Moving and Exploring Does your child have enough chances to move and explore? Children with disabilities often need some extra protection. But just like all children, they also need to move

and explore so that they can develop healthy bodies and minds. Some parents of children with special needs worry about their children needing extra protection. It is not possible to protect children from every bump and bruise. Being fit and healthy can help children stay safe, and an active lifestyle is important for long-term health. Children with disabilities might find it hard to take part in sports and active play – for example, equipment may need to be adjusted, coaches may need extra information and support to help a child with a disability, or a communication problem may make it more difficult for some children to play as part of a team.

Other Concerns Do you have other concerns? Every child is different. This is not a complete list of questions and concerns, these are just examples. Your questions and concerns may be different. Speak with your healthcare provider, teacher, or child care provider to learn more about keeping your child safe.

Chapter 2 : Children's Eye Health & Safety | Prevent Blindness

The Children with Special Health Care Needs Program is in the Healthy Starts and Transitions unit in the Office of Healthy Communities at the Department of Health.

But what do we mean when we say "kids with special needs"? This means any kid who might need extra help because of a medical, emotional, or learning problem. Maybe you know of kids in your school who need a wheelchair or use braces when they walk. Those kids have special needs. They not only need the equipment that helps them get around, but they might need to have ramps or elevators available. They might need medicine or other help as they go about their day. Kids with sight problems might use special apps, tablets, or computers to read. Those with hearing or speech problems would have special needs, too. Kids with learning problems often have special needs. Kids with Down syndrome might go to a regular school and might even be in your class. But they have special needs when it comes to learning, so an aide someone to help might come with them to class. Privately, their parents, teachers, and counselors may be working to help them worry less. Life can be extra-challenging for a kid with special needs. It might be harder to do everyday stuff like learning to read or, if a person has physical handicaps, just getting around school or the mall. The good news is that parents, doctors, nurses, therapists, teachers, and others can help. The goal is to help kids be as independent as possible. Other kids also can be a big help. By being a friend. Kids who need a wheelchair or have other health problems want friends just like you do. But meeting people and making friends can be tough. Some kids might tease them or make fun of them. Be sure to tell a teacher if you see someone being bullied or teased. Also try to be helpful if you know someone with special needs. Ask if they would like help with carrying their books or opening a door. Ask them to join you and your friends at lunch. Because just like you, kids with special needs like to be as independent as they can be. Being friendly to kids with special needs is one of the best ways to be helpful.

Chapter 3 : Children with Special Health Care Needs :: Washington State Department of Health

Working effectively with children with developmental disabilities or children with special health care needs requires a unique set of skills and knowledge. This 2-hour course will help you learn how to serve these children in child care settings.

Chapter 4 : Children with Special Health Care Needs Partners :: Washington State Department of Health

The Children with Special Needs Fund (CSN Fund) provides support for children in Michigan with special health care needs not available through any other funding source. The Fund helps with the purchase of equipment and services that promote optimal health, mobility, and development, enhancing the lives of children and their families.

Chapter 5 : Special Needs | Safe Kids Worldwide

The Special Needs Resource Directory provides information on home modifications and safety for children with special healthcare needs. Mental Health, Health.

Chapter 6 : Safety Tips | Safe Kids Worldwide

Find children's health and safety information for a happy and healthy child at the WebMD Children's Health Center. WebMD Special Sections.

Chapter 7 : How to Teach Fire Safety to Special Needs Kids

Seattle Children's Hospital works with the Children with Special Health Care Needs Program, through a contract with the Center for Children with Special Needs to improve statewide systems of care and provide resources and education for families with children with special health care needs and their providers.

Chapter 8 : Home Modifications and Safety for Children with Special Healthcare Needs

Seattle Children's Center for Children with Special Needs is an information source for families and professionals. We provide information and resources, program evaluation and needs assessment, health education and training.

Chapter 9 : Health and Safety in Child Care Settings | calendrierdelascience.com

A series of safety tips and videos on ways to keep children with special needs safe in the home. Keeping Safe from Injury- for Children with Special Needs [PDF - MB] Strategies to increase parents' knowledge about how to prevent injuries for children with special needs.