

# Tips for Keeping Children Safe on the Playground

Minimize the risk of playground injuries all year long.

## Protect children from sun.

- Use appropriate clothing and shaded areas.
- Apply sunscreen to children over 6 months.
- Check for safe temperatures.
- Provide safe drinking water.

**Children can safely play outside in most conditions.**

## Prevent injuries.

- Keep younger children away from equipment designed for older children.
- Inspect the playground for hazards before each use.
- Keep children away from any hazards until they are fixed.
- Have a [Certified Playground Safety Inspector](#) check for hazards once per year.
- Use safe surfacing such as poured-in rubber, rubber mats, or loose surfacing (shredded rubber, mulch, or sand and pea gravel for children over age 3) that is at least 9 inches deep.

**Safe playground surfacing will reduce injuries by more than half.**

Play safe!  
Preschoolers  
only



## Actively supervise children at all times.

- Have clear sightlines and easy access to the children.
- Watch, count, and listen to children.
- Anticipate what children may do and redirect when necessary.
- Account for all children before leaving the playground.

**Active supervision could prevent nearly half of playground injuries.**

