

Keeping Play Areas Clean and Safe

Small children are like mini-germ factories. They wheeze, sneeze, and put everything from fingers to toys in their mouths. Keeping them and their surroundings clean and safe is a constant challenge. Where there are lots of children, including classrooms and daycare settings, the challenge is even greater.

“Products that clean and disinfect are the keys to a healthier childcare environment,” says Shannon Coombs, Executive Director of the Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA). The association suggests safe ways to handle these products include cleaning when the children are not around. Statistics show that for children under the age of six, about 50 per cent of accidents occur while the product is in use.

Other CCSPA safety tips include:

- Never repackage a product in a different or unlabeled container.
- Keep all cleaning supplies out of the reach of children.
- Be sure each storage area includes safety information.
- Post your local emergency poison control telephone number prominently in your home and program it into all phones.

For more information about cleaning and health, check out the CCSPA’s website at www.healthycleaning101.org.