



Getting to Know Your Child

Child's Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Fun things our family does:
2. What/who is important in my child's life? (people, pets, toys, imaginary friends, place, etc.)
3. Does your child have the opportunity to play with other children?
4. How do you comfort your child?
5. What I love about my child is:
6. What else would you like us to know about your child?
7. What do you hope for your child this program year?
8. What else would you like to know about Head Start or Early Head Start?

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

HS 1302.46 Family support services for health, nutrition, and mental health (b) (i)

Policy: Programs must collaborate with parents to promote children's health and well-being by providing...opportunities for parents to learn about...health and safety practices for the home.

Below is a checklist of ways to avoid potential hazards in and around homes. We've developed this checklist to help you prevent accidents and injuries from happening. Complete a home inspection using this checklist, noticing any areas you would like to discuss with EHS/HS staff.

****Certain items may be available through Head Start funding if needed/available. Please ask if you require additional safety items for the home.**

GENERAL:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Windowsills, woodwork, and sleep/play areas are free from flaking paint chips.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Windows that open have screens. Windows/screens can securely lock. Window-blind cords are not accessible.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Firearms are kept in a locked area. Ammunition is stored separately. Trigger locks in place on all firearms.	** <i>Local police departments may give out trigger locks free of charge.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastic bags are out of reach of children.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Electrical outlets are covered.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Electrical cords are out of reach of children.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Porches, balconies, and stairways have gates or other barriers to protect against falls.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heating units, fireplaces, radiators have protective screens/coverings/barriers.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rugs and carpets are not loose or a possible tripping hazard.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plants are not accessible to children.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Furniture has all sharp corners covered.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A fire extinguisher is available in the home or apartment complex hallway and regularly checked.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are installed and regularly checked.	**

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Family has a fire escape plan that all adults and children know and practice throughout the year.	<i>Local fire departments may have fire escape plan templates.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire ladder is available if there is only one exit from the second or third floor.	<i>Local fire departments may give out fire ladders free of charge.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cigarettes, marijuana, lighters, ashtrays, vapor materials are out of children's reach.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Batteries in remotes and toys are secured and inaccessible to children. Batteries are disposed of safely.	<i>Local disposal sites list available.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large furniture (dressers, bookshelves, TV's, etc.) are secured to the wall to avoid falling or being pulled over onto a child.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cleaning products are labeled and kept out of reach of children and/or locked.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medications are kept out of reach of children or in lock box.	**

KITCHEN:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency numbers are quickly available.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICE app or contact is listed/available.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooking utensils, knives, and other sharp objects are stored out of reach.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water temperature is below 120* F at all sinks.	<i>Water heater can be adjusted.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is no standing water, such as a bucket of mop water.	

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

BEDROOMS:

		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	All perfumes, cosmetics, and personal hygiene products are kept out of reach.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharp objects, such as needles, scissors, tools, etc. are out of reach of children.	**.

BATHROOMS:

		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expired medicines are turned in to pharmacies or the Michigan State Police.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Razors, scissors, and sharp objects are kept out of reach.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hair dryers, curling/flat irons, electric razors, etc. are unplugged when not in use and stored out of reach.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal hygiene products are stored out of reach.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is a toilet lock on the toilet for children under 3.	**

SPACES WHERE CHILDREN PLAY:

		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Toys have no sharp edges or small breakable parts.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Toys or game parts are not small enough for a child 3 and under to swallow (should not be able to fit through a toilet paper roll tube)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Broken toys are repaired or disposed of.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The room(s) where children play are arranged to move freely and safely.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adult tools/equipment are not accessible to children in a play area.	

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

LAUNDRY AREA:

		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soaps, detergents, soap pods, and bleach are kept out of reach or locked and labeled.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	All cleaning products, such as drain cleaners, window cleaner, furniture polish is kept out of reach and labeled.	**
<input type="checkbox"/>	Washer and dryer are always kept closed.	

BASEMENT, GARAGE, OR OTHER STORAGE AREA:

		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	All hazardous materials are kept out of reach and labeled. This may include Super-Glue, wood glue, repair products, paint, paint strippers, paint thinners, turpentine, soldering compound, caulking, insecticides, weed killer, gasoline, oil, lighter fluid/grilling supplies, antifreeze, seeds, fertilizer, and/or bulbs.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	If there is a freezer or refrigerator, it is kept locked.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Power and hand tools are unplugged, stored safely and out of reach.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ladders, shovels, rakes are stored safely.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is no standing water or any other fluid in reach of children.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Returnable cans and bottles are stored out of reach.	

OUTSIDE AREAS:

		Comments/Questions/Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plants or shrubs that are of the poisonous variety are inaccessible to children or are removed.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play area is free of glass, nails, litter, and other sharp or hazardous materials.	

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Broken toys are repaired or disposed of.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandboxes have covers for when not in use.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boundaries around play areas are distinct so children know their limits. This could be a fence, shrubs, tree line, painted lines, or cones.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large climbing and play equipment are secured and safe.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Life jackets are available and used when children play/swim in streams, rivers, lakes, pools, or other bodies of water.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bike helmets are available and used when children ride trikes, bikes, scooters, roller skates/blades, and skateboards.	<i>Communities often have events with free bike helmet giveaways.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	If children go barefoot, the ground is free of debris.	

AUTOMOBILE:



Comments/Questions/Resources

<input type="checkbox"/>	Properly installed and approved car seats are available and used for all children.	<i>Fire Department and other resources may be available.</i>
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ADDITIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Please contact EHS/HS staff if you are interested in information on any of the following:

- Emergency First Aid
- Health and Developmental Consequences of Tobacco Products
- Exposure to Lead
- Safe Sleep Information
- Pet safety - Have you talked with your child about caring for your pet? Does your pet have a "safe spot" to go where children leave it alone?
- PPO Plan - If you have a PPO against anyone, do you have a plan in place if an incident should occur with this person?
- Any Additional Health and Safety Information

SAFETY TIPS

- Children should not walk or run with any long object in their mouth such as a toothbrush, lollipops, candy canes, etc.
- During and after cooking, pots and pans handles should be turned away from edges to prevent burns if a child grabbed the handle or the handle was bumped into.
- Smoking should be done in a designated smoking area, away from children.

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

- Outside areas should ALWAYS be inspected by an adult before children play.
- Outside play should ALWAYS be supervised by an adult.
- Wading/play/splash pools should be emptied daily.
- Children should ALWAYS be supervised when water is accessible.
- Play equipment should be checked regularly for hazards (breaks, splintering, rust, sharp areas, etc.)
- Always keep child safety locks activated on doors when available.
- Keep vehicles locked when not in use to prevent children from entering.
- Keep in mind that certain cleaning supplies/chemicals etc. may look enticing to children or even look like other items they enjoy (such as windex = kool aid or pine sol = apple juice).

THIS SECTION IS FOR EARLY HEAD START STAFF

TALKING POINTS

DATE NOTED ON HV PLAN

Safe sleeping practices	
Choking hazard/choke tube – using toilet paper tube	
Medications – read labels, measure only with the measuring tool provided, don't modify adult medications for children, don't share medications, leave medication in the original container. Medication should never be kept in a purse or diaper bag where children may find it.	
Other:	
Other:	

Additional Comments/Questions:

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

2nd year Parent Initial: _____ Date: _____

3rd year Parent Initial: _____ Date: _____

Pedestrian Safety Training

HSPPS 1302.46 (b)(v) Policy: Programs must collaborate with parents to promote children's health and well-being. Such collaboration must provide opportunities for parents to learn about appropriate vehicle and pedestrian safety for keeping children safe.

Children see things around them from a very different perspective than an adult. They have a lower viewpoint and have not developed the ability to judge speed and distance or understand danger, which is necessary for their road safety. By repeating the following tasks every time, you are around cars and traffic, you teach your child how to stay safe!

Birth to 12 months



- **Never** leave an infant/child unattended in the car
- Always **take your child out of the car on the curb side**. Your child will get used to only using the door on the curb side to exit the car, this will carry over to primary school years.
- Always **put your child in the car first** so that your child is safely restrained. When getting out of the car, **take your child out of the car last** so they are always by your side.



- Always **choose safe places to cross** with a clear view of traffic. By choosing safe and clear places to cross such as pedestrian crossings or traffic lights, your child will start to understand when they should cross the street.
- Always **stop at the curb before crossing** and explain to your child how and where you are checking for traffic.

Toddlers 12 months to 2 years



- **Separate children's play area from the driveway and the garage.**
- Always **supervise your children when a vehicle is being moved** on your property.
- When you are the only parent at home, **put your children securely in the car with you** to move a vehicle.
- **Make access to the driveway from the house or the yard difficult** for children. Put in a fence, security door, or gate.
- **Do not allow your child to play in the driveway**; this is not a play area.
- Remember that **using mirrors when backing up still leaves limited visibility** of the area behind the car.
- **Know where all children are before backing out of your driveway.**
- **Make sure none of the child's toys are near the driveway** or front pathways.



- Always **hold your toddler's hand**. If they are unwilling, use a stroller.
- Look for dangers. **Stop at driveways** and tell your child you are checking for cars.
- **Talk to your toddler** about what to do when crossing streets or driveways.
- **Point out any road/street signs, traffic signals, and road markings**. Tell your child what they mean.
- **Involve your child**, ask them what they can see and if they think it is safe.

Children 2 to 5 years - - - - -

At this age your child is learning and using many new words. Explain to your child the meaning of words such as stop, go, look, and dangerous. The basics, such as always holding your child's hand, are still very important. Now that they are a little older, you can involve them in decision-making when it comes to crossing the road.



- **Do not allow your child to get out of the car until you are at their door waiting:** If you have a baby in the car, have your child wait in the car until you have taken the baby out and you are ready.
- Continue to **make sure your child is exiting the car on the curb side.**
- **Hold hands with your child** – boys are three times more likely than girls to be involved in pedestrian injuries.
- When crossing a road, **stop at the curb and show them where the traffic is coming from:** Help your child get used to looking both ways before letting you know it might be safe to cross.
- **Talk about vehicles traveling towards you and away from you** and vehicles that are traveling fast and slow: Explain why you decide it is safe to cross.
- **Involve your child in the decision-making:** By encouraging your child to share your thoughts on what to do in different circumstances your child can become more confident in their ability to follow the road rules.

Child Road/Street Safety - - - - -

Constant supervision is the best way to know where your child is so you can help keep them safe. Children most at risk on the roads are those aged five to nine, often because they are given more opportunities to cross roads/streets on their own. By putting habits in place that teach your child about road safety from a very young age, you are giving your child the best chance you can to keep them safe on the roads. Remember that the best road safety training is practical experience.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

EHS Staff Signature: _____ Date: _____