

# Getting to Know Your Child and Family

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Child's Name

Date

1. What my family does for fun is:
2. What/who is important in your child's life? (People, pets, toys, imaginary friends, places, etc.)
3. Does your child have the opportunity to play with other children?
4. How do you comfort your child?
5. What I love most 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?





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

**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.

## HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

Below is a list of some potentially hazardous areas in and around your home. We've developed this checklist to help you prevent accidents and injuries from happening. **Make a home inspection using this checklist, marking all areas of concern for follow up.** Additional space is provided to add concerns. When completing this list, it's a good idea to sit on the floor to gain your child's perspective of the living space. This checklist can be used in the home where the child resides, as well as in homes where the child frequently visits.

GENERAL	Concerns/Notes and Follow Up
<input type="checkbox"/> Has flaking paint chips on windowsills, woodwork, crib or playpens.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Has windows that open do not have screens. Windows and screens cannot securely lock.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Firearms are not kept in locked area. Ammunition is not stored separately. Trigger locks are not used. (Most local police departments and state police departments give these out at no charge.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bags are within reach of children.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wall sockets are uncovered and accessible to children.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical cords are accessible to children. Mini-blind/window covering cords are accessible. (strangulation hazard)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Porches, balconies, and stairways do not have gates or other barriers to protect against falls.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Heating units, fireplaces, radiators do not have protective screens/coverings.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rugs and carpets are loose or may be a tripping hazard.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Plants are accessible to children.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Furniture has sharp corners.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Does not have a fire extinguisher available or is not regularly checked. (This could be in the hallway of an apartment complex or be in the home directly.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Smoke detectors are not installed or regularly checked to be sure they are operational.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Batteries in smoke detectors are not changed twice yearly	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family does not have a fire escape plan that all adults and children know and practice throughout the year.	
<input type="checkbox"/> There is not a fire ladder available for a second or third floor with only one exit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cigarettes, marijuana, lighters, ashtrays, or vapor materials are within children's reach	
<input type="checkbox"/> There is not a designated smoking area away from children	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Batteries in remotes and toys are not secured and are accessible to children. Batteries are not disposed of safely (see local disposal sites)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

### KITCHEN

<input type="checkbox"/>	Household and cleaning products are within children's reach and/or not locked and labeled	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicines are within children's reach and/or unlocked.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency numbers are not available in phone or posted near phone if a landline is available.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICE app is not available for emergency numbers.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	During and/or after cooking, pan and/or pot handles are over edge of stove, where they could be bumped or grabbed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cooking utensils, knives, and other sharp objects are within children's reach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water temperature is not below 120* F at all sinks (water heater can be adjusted)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is standing water, such as a bucket of mop water	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

### BEDROOMS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Perfumes and/or cosmetics are accessible to children	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicines and/or personal hygiene products are within children's reach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharp objects, such as needles, scissors, tools, etc. are within children's reach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Larger furniture such as dressers and TV's are not secured to the wall to avoid falling or being pulled over onto a child.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

### BATHROOMS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicine is within children's reach and/or unlocked	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expired medicines are not turned in to pharmacies or the Michigan State Police.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Razors, scissors, and/or sharp objects are within children's reach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cleaning products are not labeled and/or within children's reach	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Hair dryers, curling/flat irons, electric razors, etc. remain plugged in when not in use and/or are within children's reach.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal hygiene products are within children's reach.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is not a toilet lock.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children walk/and or run with a toothbrush in their mouth, rather than standing at the sink	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

#### SPACES WHERE CHILDREN PLAY (LIVING ROOM, BEDROOM, PLAYROOM)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Toys have sharp edges and/or breakable parts.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Toys and/or game parts are small enough for child to swallow. (Fits through a paper roll tube.)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Broken toys are present without being repaired	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children are not able to move freely and safely due to the arrangement of the room	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adult tools/equipment are within children's reach in a play area	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

#### LAUNDRY AREA

<input type="checkbox"/>	Soaps, detergents, soap pods or bleach are accessible to children and/or they are not labeled.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cleaning products, such as drain cleaners, window cleaner, or furniture polish are within children's reach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Washer and dryer are not always kept closed.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

#### BASEMENT, GARAGE, OR OTHER STORAGE AREA

<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazardous materials are within children's reach and/or are not 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, they do not lock	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Power and hand tools are plugged in and/or within children's reach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ladders, shovels, and/or rakes are stored in an unsafe manner	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is standing water on the floor	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Returnable cans and bottles are within children's reach	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	
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**OUTSIDE AREA WHERE CHILDREN MAY PLAY AT HOME OR AT A PARK**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Poisonous plants and shrubs are accessible to children	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play area has glass, nails, litter or other sharp hazardous materials.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Broken toys are present that have not been repaired.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandboxes are uncovered when they are not in use.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boundaries around the play area are not distinct; children do not know their limits. Fences, shrubs, tree lines, painted lines or cones could be used as boundaries.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wading, play, or splash pools are not emptied daily. Children are unsupervised when water is accessible.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large climbing and play equipment in unsecured and unsafe. Play equipment is not checked regularly for hazards (breaks, splintering, rust, sharp areas, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children are left outside without adult supervision at times	
<input type="checkbox"/>	At times, outside areas are not inspected by an adult before children play	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children play or swim in streams, rivers, lakes, pools, or other bodies of water without life jackets	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children ride trikes, bikes, roller skates/blade, skateboards, or scooters without a bike helmet	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children go barefoot with debris present.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

**AUTOMOBILE**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Properly installed and approved car seats are not used for all children.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Child safety locks are deactivated on doors. Cars are kept locked when they are not in use to prevent children from entering the car	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children are left unattended in the car	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Driver's do not walk around the car to ensure there are no children behind or near the car	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

**ADDITIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

\*Mark if parent is interested in more information on the following topics.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency First Aid	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health and Developmental consequences of tobacco products	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exposure to Lead	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional Safe Sleep Information	
<input type="checkbox"/>	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?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PPO Plan- If you have a PPO against anyone, do you have a plan in place if an incident should occur with this person?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Health and Safety Info Requested:	

**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.	
Deadly Look-A-Likes: What do kids see? Windex = Kool Aid Pine Sol = apple juice	
Other:	

Additional Comments/Concerns:

Parent signature:

Date:

2<sup>nd</sup> yr Parent Initial & Date:

3<sup>rd</sup> yr Parent Initial & Date:





# Pedestrian Safety Training

**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 e.g. 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.
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## Toddlers 12 months to 2 years



- **Separate the driveway and the garage from where children play.**
- 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 to the yard difficult** for children. Put in a fence, security door, or gate.
- **Do not at any time 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. Fit special mirrors on your car to increase visibility.
- **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** at all times. 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 holding your child's hand at all times, 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, so it is worth preserving.
- 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.

X

Parent Signature & Date

X

Staff Signature & Date