

THEME OF THE MONTH:

Keeping Your Child Safe in Today's World



The Strengthening Families Approach supports families by helping you maintain stability, be calm and continue to nurture your family despite difficult or challenging circumstances.

It is our hope, that with these resources, you are able to continue building resilience and develop skills, characteristics, knowledge and relationships that can contribute to both short and long term positive outcomes.

Keeping Your Child Safe in Today's World

Good Child Care centers provide inviting environments that welcome those who enter. Today's world, however, requires controlled access so that only visitors with legitimate reasons for entering are allowed in.

How is access to the building controlled? Some centers use key pads; others give parents card keys, similar to those in hotels. If

your center employs these devices, are the codes or card keys changed regularly? If your center does not have these devices, is there someone who greets visitors? Can s/he turn away those who do not belong or keep them out of the areas in which children are present? Can s/he quickly summon assistance?

If your childcare program is in a community center open to the public, what is the plan to protect the children if there is a threat to the building or the people in it? Does your provider have an evacuation plan when warned of hazardous conditions? If the center will be sheltering others, will your child remain with familiar children and staff?

Your provider's ability to keep your child safe depends on current emergency information. If your work, home, cell phone or fax number changes, if your emergency contact names, addresses or phone changes, if there is a change in who can pick up your child, if your child's physician changes, or if you will be out of town, make sure the provider knows.

Emergency information should not only be current, it should be comprehensive. Working families who depend on others to keep their children safe may feel especially vulnerable in today's uncertain world. Although you can't the uncertainty, you can plan with your family to minimize danger and to know what to do if something catastrophic occurs. A review of your child care provider's security and disaster preparedness measures, reminders to your child about being cautious in specific situations, and some thoughtful pre-planning can increase your peace of mind.



For More Information...

About choosing and using child care and before and after school care, call the Child Care Resource and Referral Agency which serves your community. To find the number of the CCR&R in your area, call **1.800.424.2246**.

The Daily Parent is prepared by NACCRRRA, the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies.

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN



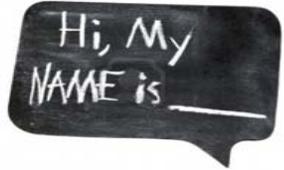
3. ADDRESS:



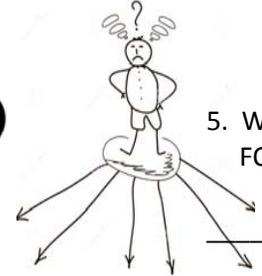
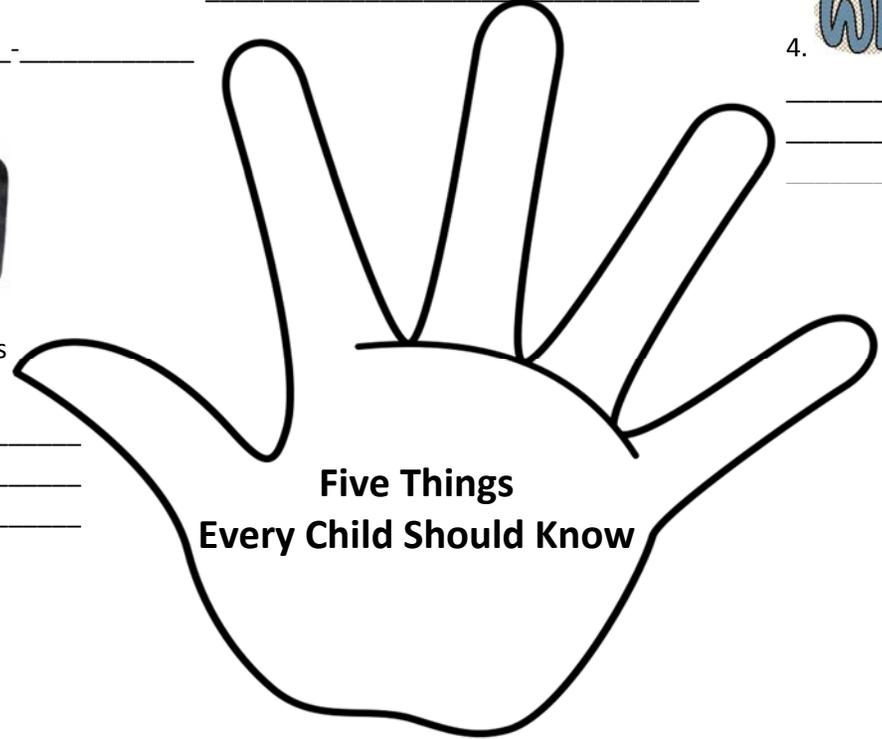
2. PHONE NUMBER:

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4. WHO? CAN HELP:



1. NAME: Your name and your parent's names:



5. WHERE TO GO FOR HELP:

Emergencies are a scary time for everyone! But teaching our children how to respond when these situations occur helps them feel empowered and better prepared in the future. Fill this sheet out with your child(ren) and place it on your refrigerator or somewhere your child(ren) can easily recognize it in case immediate help is ever needed.