

DIAPERING PROCEDURE

PREPARING FOR DIAPERING

To minimize contamination outside the diaper changing area, prepare for a diaper change **before** bringing the child to the changing table, by having ready:

- ❖ Changing table paper (if used) to cover the table from the child's shoulders to feet (in case it becomes soiled and must be folded over to create a clean surface during the change)
- ❖ Enough wipes for the diaper change (including cleaning the child's bottom and the child's and teacher's hands after taking the soiled diaper away from the child's skin)
- ❖ A clean diaper, plastic bag for soiled clothes and clean clothes (if soiled clothing is anticipated)
- ❖ Non-porous gloves (if they will be used), and a dab of diaper cream on a disposable paper towel if cream is being used.

Supplies should be removed from their containers and placed near, but not directly on, the diapering surface before starting the diaper change.

DIAPERING PROCEDURE

1. Prepare for diapering (as indicated above).
2. Place the child on diapering table. Remove clothing to access diaper. If soiled, place clothes into a plastic bag.
3. Remove soiled diaper and place into a lined, hands-free trash container. (To limit odor, seal in a plastic bag before placing into trash container.)
4. Use wipes to clean child's bottom from front to back.
5. Use a wipe to remove soil from adult's hands.
6. Use another wipe to remove soil from child's hands.
7. Throw soiled wipes into lined, hands-free trash container.
8. Put on clean diaper and redress the child.
9. Place the child at the sink and wash hands following the proper handwashing procedure (see below).
10. Clean and sanitize the diapering surface by spraying it with a soap solution (detergent and water) and drying surface with a disposable towel. Follow this by spraying the diapering surface with bleach-water solution and wait more than 2 minutes before wiping with a disposable towel or allow to air dry. It should be noted that the recommended practice is to wait for 2 minutes to allow the solution to kill germs. The surface cannot be sprayed and immediately wiped. Other disinfectants may be used but most need to remain on the diapering surface for 10 minutes or more and need to be kept locked up.
11. Adult washes hands using the proper handwashing procedure without contaminating any other surfaces.

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS

- ❖ The diapering surface must be sanitized after each diaper change with a bleach-water or other approved sanitizing solution (all surfaces must be able to be sanitized- e.g., no quilted pads or safety straps, no containers that are stored on the diapering surface). The bleach-water solution must be allowed to stay on the surface for more than 2 minutes, to kill the germs. So it is best for staff to spray the surface as the last step of the diapering procedure before washing their own hands. After the time lapse, the surface can be dried (no additional handwashing required at this time) or allowed to air dry (and wiped dry if still damp) before use with another child.
- ❖ Diapers are disposed of in a hands-free covered can (usually one than has a step pedal that lifts the lid) to prevent further contamination of surfaces.
- ❖ Toys that are played with or objects that are touched while children's diapers are changed must be put aside to be sanitized.
- ❖ **Note:** Both child's and staff's hands must be washed with soap and water after the diapering procedure is complete.