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# Quality Care For Kids

## A newsletter for Scott County Child Care Providers

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Call your Child Care Nurse Consultant if you have any questions about child health and safety, or any special training needs.



Every 24 minutes tipped furniture or a fallen TV sends an injured child to the emergency room. Two-thirds of TV and furniture tip-over fatalities involve toddlers. Anchoring TVs, furniture and appliances is inexpensive, easy, and takes only 5 minutes. A variety of low cost anchoring devices are available for securing furniture and TVs including mounting hardware, anti-tip brackets, braces and wall straps.

### Anchor It!

The Consumer Products Safety Commission encourages parents and caregivers to “Anchor It” to keep children safe:

- Anchor TVs and furniture to prevent them from tipping.
- Avoid keeping attractive items, such as toys and remotes, in places where kids might be tempted to climb and reach for them.
- Store heavier items on

lower shelves or in lower drawers.

- Place TVs on a sturdy, low base and push the TV as far back as possible.
- Recycle unused TVs; and if moving TVs to another location, anchor the TV to the wall.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions when installing anchoring devices.

For more information go to [www.anchorit.gov](http://www.anchorit.gov) or contact your local child care nurse

### Safe Sleep

Did you know about one in five sudden infant syndrome (SIDS) deaths occur while an infant is being cared for by someone other than a parent? Many of these deaths occur because the care provider placed the infant on their stomach instead of their backs for sleep and the infant was normally placed on their back to sleep at home. This is called “unaccustomed tummy sleeping” and puts the infant at increased risk for SIDS.

In a new study of infant deaths in sitting devices like car seats, swings, or bouncy seats the deaths were due to asphyxiation by improper positioning or strangulation in straps.

Caring For Our Children (3rd edition) standards for safe sleep include:

- All infants under 1 year of age shall be placed on their

back for every sleep.

- All infants should sleep in a safe sleep environment which includes a safety approved crib with a firm mattress covered by a tight-fitting sheet and no blankets, stuffed toys, or soft/loose bedding. No positioning devices should be used.
- If an infant falls asleep in a sitting device (car seat, swing, bouncy seat) the infant will be removed from the device and placed to sleep on their back.
- Infants should be directly observed by sight and sound at all times.
- Avoid overheating by keeping the room temperature comfortable for a lightly clothed adult.



**The Healthy Child Care Iowa website has a sample Safe Sleep Policy and the Infant Sleep Positioning fact sheet available for child care providers.**

**To download and print these handouts go to [www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/products.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/products.asp) Click on “Infant Sleep Positioning” and “Safe Sleep Policy”**