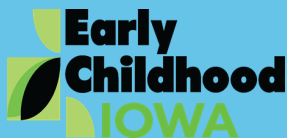


Jessica Redden, RN
Child Care Nurse Consultant
Scott County Health Department
600 W. 4th Street
Davenport, IA 52801
563-326-8618 Ext. 8821
Jessica.redden@scottcountyiowa.com



Photo CDC/Amanda Mills

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



www.earlychildhoodiowa.org

The Child Care
Nurse Consultant
Program is funded
by



Quality Care For Kids

A newsletter for Scott County Child Care Providers

Written by Stacy Kraft, RN

JULY 2019

Water Safety

Water is attractive to almost every child – they like to play in it, jump in it, splash in it! Water is also a very dangerous activity - any amount of water that covers the mouth and nose can cause an unintentional drowning in 30 seconds or less. It takes less than a few seconds for a child to slip away from eye sight or to turn your back and have a child fall into a body or container of water. In the United States, over 350 drowning-related deaths are reported each year. Iowa has had a number of reported drownings/near-drownings already this summer. Drownings are frequently silent and can happen to anybody at any time. The Consumer Products Safety Commission studied drownings that occurred in 3 states in children younger than age 4 and found that nearly 70% of the drownings that occurred happened when children were not expected to be at or near a pool, with 46% of those children having just been in the house.

There are preventative measures that can be taken when children are near a body of water:

1. Touch supervision – The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends staying in arm’s length at all times whenever near water.
2. Learn CPR – all child care providers, assistants, teachers should be CPR certified. Check your CPR card to ensure you are currently up-to-date.
3. Keep a cell phone close by in the event of an emergency.
4. Keep pool rescue equipment close by and/or know where it is located at when at a public pool.
5. Have lower child to staff ratios during water play.

Child care providers with a private pool must follow DHS regulations that include having a 4 feet high fence surrounding the pool that is flush with the ground and constructed in a manner that prevents climbing, The fence should have a self-closing, self-latching gate and a locking device that is 55 inches or higher from the ground. If not fenced, a pool cover must meet or exceed ASTM standards. Consult with your DHS consultant for more information about pool regulations. Wading pools are not recommended, not only for the drowning risk, but also for the risk of spreading communicable diseases such as cryptosporidiosis.

There are fun safe options to cool down in the hot summer months using water tables, sprinklers, small buckets, and watering cans. Water containers should be emptied immediately following use. For more information on water safety tips, visit <https://www.safekids.org/research-report/keeping-kids-safe-and-around-water-exploring-misconceptions-lead-drowning>

Effective July 1, 2019, The new Department of Human Services (DHS) Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training (MCART) is now available on the Iowa DHS Training website. For more information, go to <https://dhs.iowa.gov/child-welfare/mandatoryreporter>

Healthy Child Care Iowa has a new fact sheet for providers on supporting children with grief and loss. The fact sheet includes information and resources.

Visit our website

<https://www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci/products> and scroll to “Grief and Loss Support”