

# CLDDV 111: Health, Safety, and Nutrition



Chapter 4: Outdoor Safety  
Prepared by Debbie Laffranchini, MA

# Safety Policies



- ❧ Falls from playground equipment are the leading cause of injury in early childhood education environments
  - ❧ Head injuries cause most of the disabilities and fall-related deaths
- ❧ The best way to reduce playground injuries is through better quality and quantity of supervision of adults
- ❧ Early excessive exposure to the sun can cause serious damage to the skin and could later lead to malignant melanoma

# Safety Policies (cont)



- ❧ Approximately 3 million thefts and violent crimes occur near public schools each year
  - ❧ Many centers and family child care homes are close to schools and are at risk for safety
- ❧ Motor vehicles are the most common cause of accidental deaths of children
  - ❧ >70% of fatalities could be prevented with the use of safety seat restraints



# Safety Policies (cont)

- 300,000 children each year are treated in emergency rooms for bicycle-related injuries
- Bicycle injuries are one of the leading causes of injury and death in children



# Safety Policies (cont)



- ❧ Vulnerability to injury involves risks from:
  - ❧ Playground equipment
  - ❧ Travel
  - ❧ Traffic
  - ❧ Bicycles
  - ❧ Bodies of water
  - ❧ Neighborhood
- ❧ Hazards:
  - ❧ Improper equipment (accessories)
  - ❧ Improper cushioning under equipment (conditions)
  - ❧ Accessories to equipment (accessories)
  - ❧ Child taking risks (behaviors)



# Safety Policies (cont)



- ❧ Should include:
  - ❧ Outdoor environments
  - ❧ Playground equipment safety
  - ❧ Travel and traffic safety
  - ❧ Water safety
  - ❧ Implications for teachers

# National Recreation and Park Association

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☞ Dirty Dozen: 12 Playground Hazards:

☞ <http://www.nrpa.org/Professional-Development/Certification/CPSI/The-Dirty-Dozen/>

# Outdoor Environmental Hazards

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- ⌘ Barriers: surrounding area at least four feet high, constructed with safe materials
- ⌘ Poison Control:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8\\_VQy4p6ZYs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_VQy4p6ZYs)
- ⌘ Stop: Ask First  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZO-drzD1\\_M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZO-drzD1_M)
- ⌘ Toxic Flowers and Plants:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fgb5msr1XGU>
- ⌘ Poisonous Backyard Plants:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmB1tITnsHE>