



for the Playground

Emergencies on the Playground

As a playground supervisor you can expect that emergency situations will arise from time to time. Scenarios like medical emergencies including severe injuries, severe weather, earthquake, student fights, stranger on the playground, abduction of a student, student leaving school grounds without permission and dogs or other animals on the playground may occur at any time. You need to be prepared to respond.

Prepare

- Have a plan for each emergency
- Communicate the plan to all playground personnel and office staff
- Establish a system to communicate with the office and emergency responders such as two-way radio and cell phone. Test the system to ensure it works
- Have a first aid kit stocked and easily accessible on the playground
- Be first aid/CPR certified

Providing medical care

When a child is hurt on the playground prompt and appropriate medical care should be given. Your plan should include: who is going to provide medical care; who is going to summon help; and who is going to manage the playground during this time. When an accident occurs and a child is hurt:

- Never fail to give aid
- Do not move the child
- Notify the school office if more assistance is required. Use your best judgment of whether 911 should be called
- Administer first aid as trained
- Never leave the child unattended by an adult
- Contact parents as soon as possible (the office should do this)
- Complete a student accident report promptly

Accident reports

- Complete for any playground injury other than minor scrapes and bruises
- Write legibly
- Report all information you have at the time
- Report just the facts. Do not write down opinions
- In the injury description do not give a medical diagnosis
- Be as specific as you can as to where and how the injury occurred
- List the names of any witnesses and responding authorities
- Turn in to school office