

## The Importance of Supervision

Supervision is key in keeping children safe, helping them learn, and for building strong relationships. Supervision is about using strategies and techniques to promote care that creates a safe environment for children. Quality care begins with good supervision.

According to *Caring for Our Children 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* active and positive supervision involves (Standard 2.2.0.1: Methods of Supervision of Children page 65):

- Knowing each child's abilities;
- Establishing clear and simple safety rules;
- Scanning for potential safety hazards;
- Positioning staff strategically to ensure each area of the yard is in view
- Scanning play activities and circulating; rotating at intervals around the area;
- Focusing on the positive rather than the negative to teach what is safe for the child and other children; and
- Teaching children the appropriate and safe use of each piece of equipment (e.g., using a slide correctly - feet first only - and teaching why climbing up a slide can cause injury).



### Effective Supervision Tips

- ✓ **Know and maintain staff/child ratio. Child care providers should understand maintaining staff/child ratio alone does not mean children are being supervised.**
- ✓ Know who is in charge.
- ✓ Know and follow the daily schedule.
- ✓ **Know the number and names of children present. Identify children before and after transitioning from one area or activity to another.**
- ✓ Conduct name-to-face counts on a regular basis and as needed throughout the day.
- ✓ Be able to see and hear children at all times when children are in care.
- ✓ Have clear and simple rules for children (For example: when indoors, we walk).
- ✓ Review supervision procedures with facility staff and parents.
- ✓ Pay attention to the sounds of the environment.
- ✓ Ensure equipment is organized for play.
- ✓ Maintain communication both inside and outside the facility.
- ✓ Be sure every caregiver is aware of and knows the facility's emergency preparedness plan.