

Tips for Green Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting in Early Care and Education

Washable toys with easy handles that you easily removed for handwashing are best at minimizing dirt and germs. If you use natural cleaning products, then before their routine cleaning, they can be used to clean toys.

Washable high chairs and tables are best for handwashing and table tops.

Best alternatives are your child's regular "house" cleaning and "house" projects. In an area where that is not the case, use a bleach solution.

Old furniture carries many pest allergens. To control them:
 • use sealant
 • use a California Air Resources Board-approved air filter
 • use locking mats in diaper pads

Use color-coded microfiber cleaning cloths to prevent transfer of germs from one area to another in your facility. Microfiber and a third party certified all-purpose cleaner can remove up to 99% of germs.

Use a bleach solution to clean conventional stoves, cooktops, and dishwashing machines. To remove grease and grime, use a degreaser and rinse with fresh water. Rinse well.

Use a bleach solution to clean conventional toilets, showers, and tubs. Rinse well.

Wash high chairs, tables, toys, and furniture with a food-grade surface approved sanitizer (containing hypochlorite). Look for the National Sanitation Foundation's Approved logo. Sanitizers that can be used in the dishwasher or the clothes cycle.

Wash off toys and furniture up to 99% of dirt, germs, and stains that survive cleaning. Save time your facility on them.

Always use these surfaces with a disinfectant that is approved for use on microfiber cloths before washing or disinfecting.

Wash chairs or benches and toy containers with a food-grade surface approved sanitizer and the disinfectant that is used on toys.

Wash your high chairs with food-grade surface approved sanitizer and the disinfectant that is used on toys.

Open windows to freshen rooms and improve air quality in your facility. Make sure your ventilation system is working properly and filters are changed regularly to maintain good indoor air quality.

Always allow a disinfectant to remain on surfaces until you have cleaned them for the full contact time listed on the product label. A disinfectant with a 10-second or 1-minute contact time is best for use on changing tables.

Always have daily cleaning sessions with the largest working facilities. A lot of cleaning is necessary to maintain a healthy environment. Use the right cleaning products. Use the right way. Use the right time. Use the right people. Use the right equipment. Use the right materials. Use the right way. Use the right people. Use the right equipment. Use the right materials. Use the right way.

