

IDAHO EARLY LEARNING EGUIDELINES

GOAL 25: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AND AVOID HARMFUL OBJECTS AND SITUATIONS.

Domain 2: Motor Development, Physical Well-Being, and Health

Sub-Domain: Health

[Birth through 8 Months](#)

[6 to 18 Months](#)

[16 to 38 Months](#)

[36 to 60 Months](#)

[60 Months through Kindergarten](#)

DOMAIN 2: MOTOR DEVELOPMENT, PHYSICAL WELL-BEING, AND HEALTH			
SUB-DOMAIN: HEALTH			
SAFE PRACTICES			
GOAL 25: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AND AVOID HARMFUL OBJECTS AND SITUATIONS.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
Birth through 8 Months	Show discomfort or anxiousness in stressful situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shows recognition of the differences between primary caregivers and strangers. ▪ Shows response to differences between primary caregivers and strangers. ▪ Responds with crying, fussing, turning or pushing away, closing eyes, sneezing, hiccups if environment is too demanding (e.g. noise, temperature, and lighting). ▪ Shows anxiety or exhibits disengagement cues when undergoing prolonged, painful, or stressful situations such as chaotic environments or medical procedures, ▪ Signals if needs are not provided timely (diaper, hunger, comfort). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide constant close adult supervision and guidance. ▪ Dress child appropriately for the weather conditions. ▪ Put infant to sleep on his/her back. ▪ Provide a safe, child-proof environment (keep choking hazards and poisons out of child's reach, cover electrical outlets). ▪ Learn about the risk factors and signs of child abuse and neglect, and respond appropriately. ▪ Protect infant from exposure to violence, television, excessive noise, extremes in temperature, and overstimulation.

DOMAIN 2: MOTOR DEVELOPMENT, PHYSICAL WELL-BEING, AND HEALTH			
SUB-DOMAIN: HEALTH			
SAFE PRACTICES			
GOAL 25: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AND AVOID HARMFUL OBJECTS AND SITUATIONS.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
6 to 18 Months	Rely on adults to maintain safe environments and respond to adult indicators of unsafe or dangerous situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Begins to respond to cues from caregivers about warnings of danger. ▪ Begins to react when caregiver says, "No," but may need assistance to stop unsafe behavior. ▪ Responds to cues from caregivers about warnings of danger. ▪ Reacts when caregiver says, "No," but may need assistance to stop unsafe behavior. ▪ Turns to familiar adults in preference to strangers. ▪ Refers to adults in the environment to determine if activity or setting is safe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Model vocabulary that indicates danger. ▪ Demonstrate clear and consistent boundaries about harmful objects and situations (e.g. always use car safety seats, life jackets, and bicycle helmets). ▪ Explain when things are hot and too hot to safely touch; cold and too cold to safely touch. ▪ Prepare food to avoid choking hazards. ▪ Respond with proximity, words, and calming touch when child needs reassurance. ▪ Acknowledge child's fears and offer calming environment.

DOMAIN 2: MOTOR DEVELOPMENT, PHYSICAL WELL-BEING, AND HEALTH			
SUB-DOMAIN: HEALTH			
SAFE PRACTICES			
GOAL 25: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AND AVOID HARMFUL OBJECTS AND SITUATIONS.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
16 to 38 Months	Begin to develop an awareness of harmful objects and situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Begins to avoid some dangers (e.g. blowing on hot food, saying “Hot” and pointing to a hot stove, or mimicking adult admonitions), but cannot be relied on to keep self safe. ▪ Seeks caregiver support when aware of danger. ▪ Communicates to adult when someone hurts or makes them feel bad. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide constant close adult supervision and guidance. ▪ Keep all chemicals, including soaps, cleaners, and cosmetics, in locked cabinets. ▪ Give child basic words for talking about harmful objects and substances. ▪ Teach child to tell an adult if they are afraid, have been hurt by an adult or another child, or see something that is not safe. ▪ Keep guns unloaded, use safety locks, and store in a locked cabinet away from children. ▪ Introduce child to safety personnel and places such as firefighters, fire stations; health clinics, doctors, and hospitals. ▪ Teach child that they are strong and capable and can count on you to keep them safe. ▪ Demonstrate clear and consistent boundaries about harmful objects and situations (e.g. always put child in car safety seat when traveling in a vehicle). ▪ Assist child in dressing appropriately and check clothing for hazards that might cause choking or hangings.

DOMAIN 2: MOTOR DEVELOPMENT, PHYSICAL WELL-BEING, AND HEALTH			
SUB-DOMAIN: HEALTH			
SAFE PRACTICES			
GOAL 25: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AND AVOID HARMFUL OBJECTS AND SITUATIONS.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
36 to 60 Months	Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of harmful objects and situations and respond to the danger, with and without assistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicates to peers and adults when seeing dangerous behaviors such as someone throwing rocks on the playground. ▪ Recognizes dangerous objects and areas, when taught about the danger. Can tell about the danger, but cannot be relied upon to avoid the area or objects. ▪ Realizes medicine can improve health, when used properly, but cannot be relied on to know how to use medicine. ▪ Identifies appropriate clothing and sunscreen for various weather conditions. ▪ Has basic safety awareness about some hazards such as guns, fire, water, and strangers, though cannot be relied on to avoid these. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide constant close adult supervision and guidance. ▪ Participate in discussions with firefighters about fires and safety precautions. ▪ Invite law enforcement officer to tell about how they help to keep people safe. ▪ Explain 9-1-1, and show child how to dial 9-1-1. ▪ Read stories in which children face harmful situations and discuss how they deal with them. ▪ Provide puppets role-play materials, and songs/rhymes that help child focus on whom and what can be trusted. ▪ Be vigilant about appropriate clothing and skin protection. ▪ Provide role-playing situations for child to practice personal safety. ▪ Demonstrate clear and consistent boundaries about harmful objects and situations (e.g. always put child in car safety seat, helmets for bikes). ▪ Keep guns unloaded, use safety locks, and store in a locked cabinet away from children. ▪ Become familiar with the risk factors and signs of child abuse and neglect.

DOMAIN 2: MOTOR DEVELOPMENT, PHYSICAL WELL-BEING, AND HEALTH			
SUB-DOMAIN: HEALTH			
SAFE PRACTICES			
GOAL 25: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AND AVOID HARMFUL OBJECTS AND SITUATIONS.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
60 Months through Kindergarten	Explain harmful objects and situations, and respond appropriately and independently most of the time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explains when not to accept rides, food, or money from strangers. ▪ Understands that some activities may be personally dangerous (smoking, drinking alcohol, playing with matches, contact with blood, playing near ditches). ▪ Identifies adults who can assist in dangerous situations (parents, teachers, police officers). ▪ Recognizes personal privacy in relation to their body. ▪ Identifies when objects/settings are safe or unsafe for children (e.g. knives, electric outlets, traffic). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Though child can explain safety procedures, they may not always do what is safe. Provide constant close adult supervision and guidance. ▪ Plan field trips and speakers from community health and safety programs (e.g. local and tribal clinics, dentist, doctor, veterinarian, firefighter, law enforcement officer). ▪ Talk with child about harmful situations and alternative strategies for dealing with them. ▪ Show child difference between candy and pills and food and non-food items (drug abuse concerns). ▪ Take neighborhood walks with child and look at and discuss potentially dangerous situations. ▪ Explain safety rules for privacy in relation to their body. ▪ Teach child when and how to dial 9-1-1.