



# Preventing the Spread of Shigellosis in Childcare Settings

## **General Guidelines**

Bleach solution is a good disinfectant for killing germs

- use a ¼ cup of bleach to 1 gallon of cool water (or 1 tablespoon of bleach to 1 quart of cool water)
- immediately clean soiled surfaces and be sure that surfaces are scrubbed because germs stick unless they are rubbed away
- after surfaces are cleaned with a bleach solution, wait two minutes, then they should be wiped with water and a clean cloth
- ❖ Soap and paper towels must be readily available in all restrooms.
- ❖ If washing hands is not feasible, hand sanitizers may be used with adult supervision on children under six (6). Hand sanitizers are not recommended for infants.
- ❖ There should be no shared bowls of food such as grapes, cookies, or popcorn.
- ❖ Play dough or clay should not be used if there is a problem with diarrhea or shigella in your center.

## **Areas that need to be cleaned with bleach and water:**

- ✓ Door handles
- ✓ Plastic books and toys
- ✓ Toilet seats and flush handles
- ✓ Tables and chairs
- ✓ Stair rails
- ✓ Water fountain spouts and handles
- ✓ Sleeping mats/cots
- ✓ Rails on vans & buses that transport students
- ✓ Diaper changing stations

## **Hands should be washed:**

- ✓ upon arrival
- ✓ before eating, preparing, or handling food
- ✓ after using the bathroom
- ✓ after diapering (wash baby's hands as well)
- ✓ before going home
- ✓ after handling animals
- ✓ after coughing or sneezing

