

## WHAT IS MEANT BY “same sink”?



Ideally, a separate sink should be used for only handwashing after diapering / toileting. This practice helps prevent the spread of infectious agents in feces and urine. Any time staff or children touch sink faucet handles while washing their hands after they have used the toilet or taken part in diapering, germs will get on the faucets and in the sink. Therefore, a separate sink should be used only for diapering / toileting and not for any other purpose.

## WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE SEPARATE SINKS?



If the “same sink” must be used for more than diapering / toileting purposes, faucet handles and sinks should be sanitized with a bleach and water solution after all diapering / toileting use. **The sink and faucet should be sprayed with a bleach and water solution, and left on the surface for at least 2 minutes.** Faucet and sink may then be wiped with a disposable paper cloth.

**Example:** After all handwashing related to diapering / toileting has been completed (for children and adults), the sink and faucet handles should be sprayed with a bleach and water solution and left on the surface for at least 2 minutes. Handwashing for adults and children may then take place for any other purpose. \*Then, if an adult or child uses the bathroom or has a diaper changed and washes his hands in that sink (“same sink”), the faucet handles and sink must then be re-sanitized before handwashing may take place for any other purpose.

*\* Shortly after morning arrival, staff diaper several children and wash their hands using the only sink in the classroom. Staff sprays both the faucets and sink with bleach and water, allows it to stand for at least 2 minutes and wipes with a paper towel. The sink may now be used for other purposes (washing after painting, snack, etc.) If an adult or child uses the bathroom or staff changes a diaper again and hands are washed in the sink, the faucet handles and sink must be re-sanitized before handwashing can take place for any other purpose.*