EARLY LEARNING COALITION

DIAPER CHANGING PROCEDURES

STEP 1: Prepare for Diapering Before Bringing Child to the Table

- Clean your hands by using proper hand hygiene (handwashing or use of hand sanitizer according to directions).
- Changing table paper (if used) to cover the table from the child's shoulders to feet (in case it becomes soiled and must be folded over to create a clean surface during the change)
- Enough wipes for the diaper change (including cleaning the child's bottom and the child's and teacher's hands after taking the soiled diaper away from the child's skin)
- A clean diaper, plastic bag for soiled clothes and clean clothes (if soiled clothing is anticipated)
- Non-porous gloves (if they will be used), and a dab of diaper cream on a disposable paper towel if cream is being used
- Supplies should be removed from their containers and placed near, but not directly on, the diapering surface before starting the diaper change.

STEP 2: Avoid Contact with Soiled Items and Always Keep a Hand on the Child

- Place the child on diapering table. Remove clothing to access diaper. If soiled, place clothes into a plastic bag.
- Remove soiled diaper and place into a lined, hands-free trash container.

STEP 3: Clean the Child's Diaper Area

- Use wipes to clean child's bottom from front to back (one wipe per swipe) and throw away into trash container. The diaper can also be left open under the child during the cleaning step and then discarded with the soiled wipes before continuing. If gloves are used, they must be discarded at this time.
- Use a wipe to remove soil from adult's hands.
- Throw soiled wipes into lined, hands-free trash container.
- Use another wipe to remove soil from child's hands.
- Throw soiled wipes into lined, hands-free trash container.

STEP 4: Put on a Clean Diaper and Wash Child's Hands

- Put on a clean diaper and redress child
- Place the child at the sink and wash hands following the proper hand washing procedure. (use of hand sanitizer is also acceptable for children 2 and older). Return the child to the play area without touching any other surfaces.

STEP 5: Clean and Disinfect the Diapering Area

- Clean the diapering surface by spraying it with a soapy water solution and drying with a paper towel or by wiping it with a water-saturated paper towel or wipe.
- Disinfect the diapering surface by spraying it with disinfectant-strength bleach-water solution (½ ¾ cup bleach per gallon of water) and wait at least 2 minutes before wiping (or allow to air dry). Another EPA approved disinfectant, used according to directions, can be used instead of bleach and water.

The surface cannot be sprayed and immediately wiped.

STEP 6: Wash Your Hands and Record in the Child's Daily Log

Adult washes hands using the proper hand washing procedure without contaminating any other surfaces.

Additional precautions

All surfaces must be able to be disinfected- e.g., no quilted pads or safety straps, no containers that are stored on the diapering surface. Toys that are played with or objects that are touched while children's diapers are changed must be put aside to be sanitized.