

SAFETY TEETH

Dental injuries can often be prevented — especially if you know what to watch out for.
This chart can help you do just that.

Personalize this chart for your classroom by identifying areas in your classroom that may prove dangerous.

| INJURY PREVENTION CHART | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| CAUSE | PREVENTION | POSSIBLE DANGER AREAS IN MY SETTING |
| Shoving/pushing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make sure children move about in small groups (so there aren't long waits) | Drinking fountain Going outside |
| Falling on stairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make sure children don't feel hurried Remind children to use handrails | |
| Falling from bikes and playground equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review safety rules Teach safe use Make sure equipment is age appropriate and in good repair | |
| Running with objects in mouth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a list together of the only things that should go in your mouth, and illustrate together. Post at children's eye level. | |
| Falling/tripping | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go over and post rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk, don't run. Be careful not to trip others. Clean up toys, materials and spills | Block areas near sinks and fountains |
| Car accidents (sudden stops) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always wear seatbelts Offer children props to role play | |
| Biting hard objects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a list together of everything you shouldn't bite. Encourage children to add to the list as they think of items. | |

NOTE: When you use this chart, fill in specific areas in your setting that may prove dangerous. Also, consider copying this chart to send home. Ask parents and other family members to fill in the areas at home that might lend themselves to accidents.

Did you know...



- Upper front teeth are the teeth most affected by accidents.
- Teeth and gums in the back of the mouth are usually injured by chewing on pencils, ice, or cracking nuts.

