



Blood & Bodily Fluid Cleaning Procedure

Ridge Kids Playcare has frequent, thorough cleaning and disinfecting practices daily, which meets or exceeds the guidelines of Alberta Health Services. Cleaning is identified as removing all visible dirt from the surface of an object. Disinfecting is reducing the germs on a surface once it is cleaned. Blood and bodily fluids must be treated carefully, as there is a hazard of infectious disease.

If a blood or bodily fluid spill is identified, the Educators' primary concern is ensuring children's safety, the following procedure outlines expectations for cleaning up blood and/or bodily fluids:

1. Educators will inform and mark off a specific area that has been affected by blood or bodily fluids, to ensure others do not enter this space.
2. Educators will prepare gloves, personal protective equipment (mask, eye goggles, coveralls, booties, etc.) needed, paper towel or disposable rags, bleach solution (1 part bleach to 9 parts water), leak proof garbage bag and sanitizer test strips.
3. Bleach solution to be tested with strips to ensure appropriate strength.
4. Educators will clean the area as follows:

A. Cement and Non-absorbent Surfaces

1. Wear gloves (preferably disposable) made with non-absorbent material (e.g., latex, vinyl, rubber) to protect your hands. Do not use torn gloves and avoid tearing your gloves on equipment or sharp objects. Use additional protection such as face shield, goggles, or disposable apron, as needed, to protect personal clothing, skin, lips, and eyes.
2. Blot any excess body fluid using paper towels or disposable rags/cloths. Do not use a mop because they are difficult to properly clean afterward, and there may be possible splashing of body fluids.
3. Use a bleach solution to disinfect the area (1 part household 5.25% bleach to 9 parts water). Pour enough of the bleach solution over the affected area so that the area is wet with the solution and let the solution sit for a minimum of 10 minutes.
4. Soak up the bleach solution with fresh paper towels or disposable rags/cloths.
5. Place all used paper towels or rags/cloths in a leak-proof garbage bag. If disposable gloves are used, remove and discard the gloves and other protective equipment at this point. Dispose of the plastic bag into the regular trash.
6. After cleaning and disinfecting the area, wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.



B. Carpet If the spill occurs in a carpeted area, using bleach might cause discoloration of the carpet. Another non-staining disinfectant is recommended to clean the carpet (see Alternative Disinfectants below). If the spill is heavy, you might want to replace the affected area of the carpet and underlay. Steam cleaning of the affected materials is also acceptable.

Precautions for Cleaning and Disinfecting

1. Bleach is corrosive. It may damage colored fabrics or corrode some surfaces unless rinsed off.
2. Bleach should only be used in well-ventilated areas, and care should be taken to avoid exposure to skin, eyes and mucous membranes.