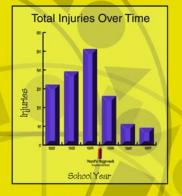
# Playground Supervisor Training

© Peaceful Playgrounds 2002





#### Program Components:

Supervisor Training Staff Training Student Education 100+ New Game Designs Conflict Resolution Strategies

# Supervision Key Purpose of Supervision is to insure safety.



Consumer Product Safety Commission statistics estimate Nearly 200,000 playground related injuries Occur each year that require emergency Room visits in the US. Nearly 40% of those injuries related to Inadequate supervision.

Playground injuries account for the majority of school related injuries that occur.



# Most Injuries

Occur on: •Swings •Monkey Bars •Slides •Climbers



Quality supervision can reduce injuries from interaction, thus have a significant influence in reducing overall playground injuries.

Bruya & Wood



Types of injuries
Self inflicted
Equipment related
Interaction with others



#### Outcome

# Understand Supervisor Responsibilities



 Over 40% of playground injuries can be attributed to issues of supervision
 King (1994)

Duty of Care to provide for safety of children

# **Supervision Zones**

Assign supervision zones

 Grass
 Play structures
 Blacktop areas

 (Min. one adult per zone recommended)

 Supervisors should not be organizing games

 Supervisors should delay adult conversations until after recess.

# **Before Duty**

Know playground Rules and Procedures
 Be Prepared. Arrive with first aid kit.
 Always precede children to playground.
 Monitor hallways
 Check Playground for hazards.
 Broken glass
 Broken equipment

CLOSE AREA IF Necessary and report Hazards



# Equipment Safety

No bats or hockey sticks at recess. Establish a tricycle track!

# Be Alert

- Move through assigned area
- Visually scan constantly
- Pay close attention to play structures area

#### Behavior Problems

- Make eye contact in anticipation of potential problems
- Move close to students in event of likely confrontation
- Give verbal warning
- Be firm in enforcing rules
- INTERVENE and stop inappropriate behavior.

- Be concerned with the safety of all children
- Do NOT engage in game activities with students.
- Do NOT engage in conversation with children. Keep comments brief.
- Stay focused on scanning playground.

 Do NOT allow running on blacktop.
 Discourage rough and tumble play (this usually ends in confrontations).
 Bullying requires intervention from other school personnel. Report to administrator.

 NEVER leave your area unsupervised.
 Send child for assistance or use walkie-talkie to call office.



Do not allow children to wear clothing with attached strings (ie, sweatshirt cords).

-This causes a risk of strangulation if caught in equipment.

### At the Recess Bell

Establish a freeze bell procedure.

Insure that students walk equipment into classroom or place in ball cart (no throwing).

Supervise walkways as students return to class insist that students walk.

# **Keeping Kids Safe**

Playground Supervisors
Establishing rules for safe play
Intervening when necessary
Working together with staff, administration, and students