Because we work with young children and are constantly cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and toys, it is good for us to be reminded that all items used for cleaning, disinfecting, and deodorizing are to be considered “hazardous chemicals”. Back in 1970, the U.S. Department of Labor set forth some standards and regulations that must be followed by all employers, regardless of company size. Unfortunately, these regulations are often overlooked. Below are some highlighted points to help familiarize you with the regulations. For more detailed information, see their web site at: http://www.osha.gov/.

- **Employees** have both a need and a right to know the hazards and identities of the chemicals they are exposed to when working. They also need to know what protective measures are available to prevent illnesses and injuries related to chemicals from occurring. MSDSs also contain information on first aid measures, however, it is strongly suggested that prior to the use of any chemicals, the appropriate health department, doctor, or poison control center be contacted to ensure the accuracy of first aid instructions listed on the MSDS sheet.

- **Chemical manufacturers**, importers, and distributors are all required to provide the appropriate MSDS to employers upon each shipment or request. In other words, if your center orders cleaning supplies from a company, you are already receiving the MSDS forms in the mail. Each time you order, the manufacturer must ensure that you are provided the most current MSDS form. However, if you are purchasing cleaning products from the store, you will need to call or write the manufacturer for their most current MSDS form. Another option for those who are needing MSDS forms for store-bought chemicals would be to use the following MSDS web site http://www.msdssearch.com/DBLinksN.htm

- **Containers of hazardous chemicals** must be labeled, tagged, or marked with the identity of the material and appropriate hazard warnings. This means that no chemical, of any kind, can be poured into unlabeled spray bottles, jars, or bowls. In addition, this means that simply writing the name of the chemical on the new container is not sufficient. It must be properly labeled with the identity of the material and appropriate hazard warnings. The chemical company or distributor

Continued on page 2
M. S. D. S.

often provides the necessary labels at no cost.

- Employers must have a written policy in place that requires all employees to read and understand the information presented in the MSDS sheets. This is ideally accomplished at an annual staff meeting where the sheets are read, discussed, and explained. In addition, we recommend that each staff member sign a statement acknowledging that they have been appraised of the chemical hazards within the workplace, potential hazardous effects, physical and chemical characteristics, and recommendations for appropriate protective measures. Employees need to also understand the first aid measures necessary in the event of an emergency and where to find the appropriate MSDS sheet. All MSDS sheets must be kept current on an annual basis.

- MSDSs must be readily accessible to employees when they are in their work areas during their work shifts. The employees must have access to the MSDSs themselves. This means that all MSDS sheets and first aide instructions are kept in one place, readily accessible in the event of an emergency. Some employers keep the MSDSs in a 3-ring binder in a central location, with each chemical under a tab labeled with the chemical’s most common name.

The above information is not meant to scare you, but it is necessary for all of us to be in compliance with the regulations of the federal government. Please contact us if you need any help. (805) 413-7344.

BODIES OF WATER:

It is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure the inaccessibility of pools, including swimming pools (in-ground and above ground), fixed-in place wading pools, hot tubs, spas, fish ponds or similar bodies of water, through a pool cover or by surrounding the pool with a fence.

BODIES OF WATER (IN-GROUND):

- The fence is to be at least five feet high and constructed so that the fence does not obscure the pool from view.
- Fences and gates are to swing away from the pool, self close, and have a self-latching device located no more than six inches from the top of the gate.
- Pool covers are to be strong enough to completely support the weight of an adult and be placed on the pool and locked while the pool is not in use.

BODIES OF WATER (ABOVE-GROUND):

- Must be made inaccessible when not in use by removing or making the ladder inaccessible, or erecting a barricade to prevent access to decking.

Summer Safety Information

- If a barricade is used, the barricade shall meet the above requirements for bodies of water in-ground.

Note: An operative pump and filtering system should accompany all in-ground pools and all above-ground pools that cannot be emptied after each use.

SPRING HEALTH TIPS

ALLERGIES are an overreaction of the immune system to substances that generally do not affect other individuals. These substances may cause sneezing, coughing and/or itching. An allergic reaction varies from person to person. Some may merely experience bothersome reactions and other reactions may be life-threatening.

Although allergies generally cannot be prevented, the allergic reaction can be. Here are some simple strategies for a person that is aware of the substance(s) that are causing an allergic reaction:

- Be in an air-conditioned environment during the peak hay-fever season
- Avoid foods identified as allergens
- Eliminate dust mites
- Eliminate animal dander
- Take medication to counteract reactions or minimize symptoms
- Be immunized with allergy injection therapy

As an early childhood professional, it is important to be aware of all children in care who have allergies. This may be achieved by receiving the appropriate documentation from
**Job Openings**

**Within the Pacific Union**

**Hawaii Conference**
Day Care Teacher/Director needed at Kahili Adventist School in Kauai, Hawaii. Must have special courses in child development and experience working with 3-5 year olds. For more information call: 808-742-9294.

**Southeastern California Conference**
Loma Linda Children’s Center is hiring substitute teachers for all age groups. Contact Teddie Hawkins at the Loma Linda Children’s Center for more details 909-558-4568.

**Southern California Conference**
Wee Care Child Center and A+ Adventist Preschool are looking for new directors. Contact Dr. Mario Negrete, Education Associate for the Southern California Conference: 818-546-8400 or e-mail.

**Outside the Pacific Union**

**Rocky Mountain Conference - Colorado**
Little Lambs Learning Center is looking for a director. Contact: Pat Chapman, Administrative Assistant, Rocky Mountain Conference-Colorado, 2520 S. Downing Street, Denver, CO 80210. 303-282-3650; e-mail.

**Washington Conference**
Child care director needed at Olympia Christian School Early Learning Center for immediate, full-time position with the Olympia Christian School Early Learning Center in Olympia, WA. Oversee a center of 50+ children from infants through preschool. Send resume and letter of interest to: e-mail. For more details call (360) 705-9630 or visit our website.

**Great Deal!**

Move over videos! The complete set of THE BIBLE IN LIVING SOUND is available on compact discs!

Research shows that auditory learning is one of the best ways to strengthen a child’s attention span and memory skills. These Bible stories are like a radio play, with background music, sound effects and actors. Your children will learn lessons from scripture while enjoying the wonderful stories of the Bible. This series includes the stories of the Old Testament, stories of the life and times of Jesus, and stories of Paul and the Apostles.

The original dramatized audio Bible stories! Get all the recordings at once. The complete set contains all the recordings of the Bible In Living Sound. There are 450 stories on 75 CD’s.

Original price: $371.25 On sale now for: $249.95 and shipping is free!

**THE BIBLE IN LIVING SOUND**
(A not-for-profit organization)

P.O. Box 234, Nordland, WA 98358-0234
1-800-634-0234
FAX: 360-385-1124

Website

Recommended for children ages 3-8. As always it is a good idea to preview materials you intend to use in the classroom.

---

**The Purposes of ACCN:**

1. To affirm, encourage and empower all engaged in the weekday ministry to children.
2. To provide opportunities for professional and spiritual growth.
3. To provide networking opportunities for Seventh-day Adventist Child Development Centers.
4. To set certification standards for child care providers.
5. To foster unity between all areas of child development within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
6. To encourage the incorporation of Early Childhood Education in the nurture and outreach programs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
7. To foster working relationships with the world church, unions, conferences, local churches, and schools.
8. To encourage surveys and research in the area of Child Development and Early Childhood Education in cooperation with the North American Division.
9. To counsel with the North American Division and General Conference in the development and review of programs and strategies for Child Development.
10. To provide guidance and resources to training organizations, colleges, and universities.
11. To advocate the hiring of Early Childhood specialists at all organizational levels of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
12. To develop working relationships with other Early Childhood Education organizations.
13. To encourage child care centers to obtain national accreditation.

---

**Join ACCN**

ACCN website address: http://paucearlychildhood.adventistfaith.org
the child’s parent/guardian and discussing with parents their child’s health history.

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

Gardening is a great activity which helps develop gross and fine motor skills of children in care. Starting a garden can be achieved regardless of the amount of space at your facility. Here are some simple planning steps in starting a garden at your facility:

Step 1 - Form a Garden Committee: Partner with staff, volunteers and parents. Find out who is interested in being involved by announcing a meeting on the topic.

Step 2 – Define the Purpose and Objective of your Garden: All gardens are unique. Identify how your garden will serve as a learning aid for the children in care and how you will achieve your objective.

Step 3 – Layout your Students’ Gardening Activities: Utilize the experience and input of the Garden Committee to assist you in developing activities that will promote a play and learning environment.

Step 4 – Define a Year-Round Garden Plan: Determine if your garden will be a year-round activity for the children in care. A year-round garden plan will account for all seasons.

Step 5 – Choose a Permanent Garden Site and Design your Garden: Select an area that has plenty of sunlight and good drainage. Your garden should also be in close proximity to water, and accessible to children and the Garden Committee.

Step 6 – Build Your Garden According to Plan: Put your plan into action by building your garden with the assistance of the children and the Garden Committee.

New at ACCN

During our June meeting, the ACCN board voted to develop informational brochures for distribution to clientele of Adventist early childhood programs. The brochures will be available on the ACCN website at no cost and cover such topics as:

- Media and aggression
- Nutrition
- Discipline
- Biting
- Potty training
- The Sensitive Child
- The Spiritual Child
- The Active Child
- Preventing High-Risk and Addictive Behaviors

Additional topics are sure to be developed, especially if our readers make recommendations!

In addition, ACCN is working to develop two PowerPoint presentations that will be available for downloading from the ACCN website. The first slideshow would provide Adventist center directors with an orientation for clientele of Adventist early childhood programs. The second slideshow would provide an orientation for new directors of Adventist early childhood programs. Both PowerPoint slide shows would be available at no cost.

Currently, the ACCN website hosts a lot of information and many documents specifically designed for Adventist early childhood administrators, infant teachers, toddler teachers, preschool teachers and pre-kindergarten teachers. Take some time and visit our website. Be sure to visit us on Facebook, too, and join our group!