

BITING POLICY

Biting is unfortunately not unexpected behavior for toddlers. Some children and many toddlers communicate through this behavior. However, biting can be harmful to other children and to staff. This biting policy has been developed with both of these ideas in mind. For Kids Only understands that biting, unfortunately, is a part of a child care setting.

Our goal is to help identify what is causing the biting and resolve these issues. If the issue cannot be resolved, this policy serves to protect the children that are bitten. If a biting incident occurs, state regulations require that the parent of the child biting and the parent of the child who was bitten be contacted. Names of the children are NOT shared with either parent.

WHEN BITING DOES OCCUR

FKO strongly disapproves of biting. The staff's job is to keep the children safe and help a child that bites learn different, more appropriate behavior. We do not use techniques to alarm, hurt, or frighten children.

For the child that was bitten:

1. First aid is given to the bite. It is cleaned with soap and water.
If the skin is broken, the bite is covered with a bandage.
2. Parents are notified.
3. The "Incident Report" is filled out documenting the incident.

For the child that bit:

1. The teacher will firmly tell the child "No...we don't bite people!!"
2. The child will be placed in time out for no longer than child's age (one year old = one minute).
3. Parents are notified.
4. The "Incident Report" is filled out documenting the incident.

WHEN BITING CONTINUES

1. The child will be shadowed to help prevent any biting incidents.
2. The child will be observed by the classroom staff to determine what is causing the child to bite (teething, communication, frustration, etc.) The director may also observe the child if the classroom staff is unable to determine the cause.
3. The child will be given positive attention and approval for positive behavior.

WHEN BITING BECOMES EXCESSIVE

If a child inflicts 3 bites in a one week period (5 weekdays) in which the skin of another child or staff member is broken or bruised or the bite leaves a significant mark, a conference will be held with the parents to discuss the child's behavior and how the behavior may be modified.

This policy is effective September 27, 2017. All past experiences of biting are not included in this policy, as this policy was not in effect at the time of biting. All biting occurrences from today forward will be counted towards a child's total biting incidents.