



Scenario 5: Washing & Disinfecting Toys

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Germs are easily spread among toys.¹
2. Choose washable toys whenever possible.¹
3. Washing and disinfecting toys helps prevent the spread of communicable diseases.¹
4. It is best to wash and disinfect toys daily, especially in a child care setting.¹
5. Toys that the child puts in his or her mouth should be washed and disinfected between use.²
6. To wash toys by hand, follow these steps:
 - Scrub each toy with HOT water and soap or detergent.^{1,2}
 - Rinse toys well with clean water.^{1,2}
 - Immerse toys in a mild bleach solution (one fourth teaspoon bleach to one quart cool water) and allow the toys to soak in the solution for 10 to 20 minutes.¹
 - Rinse toys well with cool water.²
 - Allow toys to completely dry in a hot dryer or air dry overnight.^{1,2}
7. To wash cloth or stuffed toys in a washing machine, follow these steps:
 - Place toys in washing machine filled with HOT water and soap or detergent.¹
 - Allow toys to completely dry in a hot dryer or air dry overnight.¹
8. To wash wood, hard plastic, or metal toys in a dishwasher, follow these steps:
 - Place toys in dishwasher, top rack only.¹
 - Run a complete wash and dry cycle, using the proper amount of detergent.¹



¹ Child Care Health Program. (2002, February 13). *Clean toys help prevent disease*. Retrieved from <http://www.metrokc.gov/health/childcare/clean toys.doc>

² All Family Resources. (n.d.). *Washing and disinfecting toys*. Retrieved from <http://www.familymanagement.com/childcare/practices/washing.toys.practices.html>