Toy cleaning and storage tips

Effective hygiene practices help minimise the potential risk of disease and illness. Where practicable, items, surfaces and equipment should be made of impervious materials that can be readily cleaned, e.g. plastic toys rather than fabric toys. Please include consideration of any Workplace Health and Safety policies specific to your council. These will supersede any suggestions below.

Cleaning toys and play equipment

- Daily cleaning recommended by Department of Health.
- Warm water with a neutral detergent should be used on non-porous surfaces.
- Allow toys to drip dry, ideally in the sun.
- Disinfectants to be used when enteric infection has possibly affected the storytime area. Enteric infections are characterized by diarrhea, abdominal discomfort, nausea and vomiting.
- Toys placed in a child's mouth should be removed and washed once they've finished using it.
- Cushions and soft toys with removable covers should be washed weekly.
- Stuffed toys and dress-up clothes should be washed weekly.
- For more information visit: https://education.qld.gov.au/initiativesstrategies/Documents/infection-control-guidline.pdf

Washing Hands song

A fun song for families.

**This is the way we wash our face,
Wash our face, wash our face,
This is the way we wash our face,
On a cold and frosty morning.**

**This is the way we clean our hands,
Clean our hands, clean our hands,
This is the way we clean our hands,
On a cold and frosty morning.**

This is the way we brush our teeth…..

Storage ideas

Wash, dry and store toys and small parts in mesh laundry bags.

- **cheap and hygienic**
- **easy and efficient**
- **can prevent mould**
- **keep sets of puzzles and games together**

Playdough

The high salt content in playdough discourages germs from multiplying.

Playdough should be stored in air tight containers, refrigerated between uses and discarded on a weekly basis.



Talk, read, sing and play – every day!

