DIVISION OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
BUREAU OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

PLAY EQUIPMENT GUIDE

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE DIVISION OF HEALTH, WISCONSIN COMPREHENSIVE CHILD INJURY PREVENTION PROJECT (Nov. 1987): All play equipment should be kept in safe storage containers or areas. Toy chests should not have lids on them (strangulation risk). Child care staff should be cautioned about children swallowing small objects.

HFS 46.07(3)(b)2.

2. A center shall provide sufficient indoor play equipoment to allow each child a choice of at least 3 activities involving equipment when all children are using equipment.

What is a Minimally Adequate Amount of Equipment According to Rule?

A mathematical value is assigned to each piece or combination of pieces relating to the number of children who could comfortably use the piece of equipment or interest area at one time. The total of this value is divided by three and compared to the licensed capacity in determining whether a minimum quanitity of equipment has been provided. Consideration is given to the development of children who will use the equipment to assure that it is age appropriate.

Expendable art supplies are not counted in determining quantities of play equipment.

A minimally sufficient quantity of children's books is no less than one book for every two children.

Examples of mathematical values assigned to play equipment are:

32 unit blocks	1 child	Tricycle	1 child
Housekeeping area	4	Number sorter	1
Wood Puzzle	1	Pegs w/peg board	1
Climbing Triangle (no accessories)	4	Rocking Horse	1
Rocking Boat	4	Play Gym (depending on size)	4 6 or 8
Library Corner	4		
Water or sand play table	2, 4, 6 or 8 (depending on size)		
Easel with brushes, paper, paint	1 or 2 (depending on size)		

Rhythm instruments (set counts as 1 thing to do since children usually use them at the same time and not usually during free play period).

Mythical Center Inventory

Licensed capacity = 20 children

192 unit blocks	6	15 pieces assorted manipulative equip.	15
6 trucks	6	1 wheelbarrow	1
12 wooden puzzles	12	3 tricycles	3
Library corner	4	1 ball	1
Housekeeping area	4		
Lg. sand table with sand & access.	8		
2-sided easel w/supplies	2		

Sixty-two things to do when all children are using equipment at the same time.

62 ÷ 3 = 20+ the minimum quantity of indoor equipment necessary to meet the requirements of the rule.

SAMPLES OF EQUIPMENT TO MEET THE REQUIREMENT:

"PROVIDE FOR LARGE MUSCLE DEVELOPMENT"

SAW HORSES
CRATES AND PLANKS
KEGS
BARRELS
SEWER PIPES
TIRES
STUMPS
LOGS
LARGE SPOOLS
INNER TUBES
CLIMBING NETS
CLIMBING ROPES
ROPE LADDER
CLIMBING TRIANGLES (WOOD OR METAL)
SWING SETS
SEE-SAW
SLIDES
CLIMBING STRUCTURES
ROCKING BOAT
LARGE FLOOR TRAINS, BOATS, AIRPLANE
TETHERBALL
ADJUSTABLE BASKETBALL HOOPS
HOBBY HORSE
RR TIES
GARDEN TOOLS
MAYPOLE

PLAY GYM
TRIKES - VARIOUS SIZES
IRISH MAIL
HOLLOW BLOCKS
PAIR OF STAIRS W/BOARD
LADDER BOX
LADDER EXERCISER
WOOD MONKEY LADDER
DOLLY
SPRING-O-LENE
DOME CLIMBER
ROCKING HORSE
SCOOTER
WAGON - VARIOUS SIZES
HAND TRUCK
TUMBLING MAT
PUNCHING BAG
WHEELBARROW
BALLS - VARIOUS SIZES
FABRIC CRAWL TUNNEL
JUMP ROPE
HOOPS
MERRY-GO-ROUND
PACKING BOXES
TELEPHONE POLES
TRUCKS

"PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES AND FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MANIPULATIVE SKILLS"

Manipulative

NESTING BOXES
SHAPE SORTING BOX
DRESSING FRAMES:
  BUTTONING, TYING, SNAPPING, BUCKLING, ZIPPING
LOCK BOARD
STRINGING BEADS
DESIGN CUBES
GRADED CYLINDERS
PEGS AND PEG BOARD
PEG VILLAGE
NUT & BOLTS SETS
SNAP BLOCKS
RIG-A-JIG

COLOR CONE
LACING CARDS
LACING BOOTS
SHAPE DESCRIMINATION TOYS) **WIDE**
SIZE DISCRIMINATION TOYS) **VARIETY OF**
COLOR DISCRIMINATION TOYS) **TOYS AVAIL.**
WOOD DOMINOES
PLAY TILES
SMALL WOOD TABLE TRAIN AND TRACKS
HAMMER AND NAIL SET
RISING TOWERS
NUMBER SORTER
PUZZLES:
  WOOD, STAND-UP, RUBBER, KNOB, SEE INSIDE

Construction

UNIT BLOCKS
WOOD AND CARBOARD
TABLE BLOCKS
HOLLOW BLOCKS
ALPHABET BLOCKS
FOAM BLOCKS

Any of a wide variety of interlocking blocks.

"ENCOURAGE SOCIAL INTERACTION"

HOUSEKEEPING CORNER

STOVE
REFRIGERATOR
CABINET
SINK
DISHES
POTS AND PANS
CUTLERY
DOLL BED
2 OR 3 DOLLS (BLACK, WHITE, ASIAN & HISPANIC)
DOLL CARRIAGE
DOLL CLOTHES
TABLE AND CHAIRS
(2) TELEPHONES
IRONING BOARD
HIGH CHAIR
MIRROR
ROCKING CHAIR
CHEST OF DRAWERS
BROOM
MOP
DUST PAN
ASSORTED KITCHEN UTENSILS: SCROUNGED - TOASTER STRAINER, COFFEE POT, EGG BEATERS, ETC.
STETHESCOPE
SHOE POLISHING KIT
SHAVING EQUIPMENT
HAIR ROLLERS AND BRUSH
STUFFED ANIMAL
STORAGE FOR DRESS UP CLOTHES
DRESS UP CLOTHES: HATS, SHOES, (MEN'S & WOMEN'S), COMMUNITY WORKERS

STORE PLAY

FOLD-A-WAY STORE SCREEN OR COUNTER BOARD AND HOLLOW BLOCKS
CASH REGISTER
SCALES
PLAY MONEY
PAPER BAGS
SHOPPING BAGS
STOREKEEPER'S APRON
TELEPHONE
MERCHANDISE (LIMITED ONLY BY YOUR IMAGINATION)

"PROVIDE FOR LARGE MUSCLE DEVELOPMENT"
"PROVIDE FOR CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES AND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANIPULATIVE SKILLS"
"ENCOURAGE SOCIAL INTERACTION"
"PROVIDE FOR INTELLECTUAL STIMULATION"
"ENCOURAGE CREATIVE EXPRESSION"

BLOCK AND TRUCK AREA

UNIT BLOCKS - HOLLOW BLOCKS
TRUCKS - LARGE AND SMALL
CARS - LARGE AND SMALL
RUBBER OR WOOD FIGURES
- FAMILY
- COMMUNITY WORKERS
- FARM AND/OR ZOO ANIMALS

LARGE PIECES OR PLYWOOD
COLORED OIL CLOTH
BOATS
TRAINS
AIRPLANES
CLIP ON WHEELS
OPEN SHELF BLOCK STORAGE UNIT
KEGS OR SMALL BARRELS

"ENCOURAGE CREATIVE EXPRESSION"

MUSIC AND DANCE

RHYTHM INSTRUMENTS

TAMBOURINE
SNARE DRUM
JINGLE CLOGS
TRIANGLE
RHYTHM STICKS
WRIST BELLS
CASTANETS
PIANO
KALIMBA
CYMBALS
MARACAS
GOURDS
TONE BLOCK
TOM-TOM
BONGO DRUM
BARREL DRUM
AUTOHARP
XYLOPHONE

PHONOGRAPH RECORDS - RECORD RACK

- FOLK MUSIC
- CHILDREN'S RECORDS
- MARCHING RECORDS
- JAZZ OR ROCK RECORDS
- CLASSICAL MUSIC
- STORY RECORDS
- EXERCISE AND MOVEMENT RECORDS

WOODWORKING

WORKBENCH
COPING SAW
VISE
HANDSAW
HAND DRILL
GLUE

SOFT WOOD SCRAPS
HAMMER
CLAMP
SCREW DRIVE
SCREWS AND LARGE NAILS (ROOFING)

ART

LONG HANDLE BRUSHES
SCISSORS
TEMPERA PAINT
PASTE
GLUE
CONSTRUCTION PAPER
ASST. COLORS (9X12 - 12X18)
LARGE NO-ROLL CRAYONS
COLORED PAPER TAPE
COLORED TISSUE
PAPER PUNCH

EASEL
NEWSPRINT 18 X 24
MANILA PAPER
CREPE PAPER
CRAYPAS
CHALK - WHITE AND COLORED
FELT-TIP PENS
SCOTCH TAPE
COLORED PENCILS
CLAY
PLAY DOUGH

To Encourage Creative Expression

SPONGES
CHARCOAL
STRING
LIQUID STARCH

RUBBER BANDS
STAPLER
FINGER PAINT
FINGER PAINT PAPER

Many Scrounged Items for Collage Box

SANDBOX AND/OR SAND TABLE

SHOVELS
PAILS
SPOONS
FUNNELS

ASSORTED DISHES
SMALL CARS AND TRUCKS
SAND OR ASSORTED LENTILS AND BEANS
STRAINERS, ETC.