

Case Study: Childcare Facility Safer Cleaning Supplies

Maria Cisneros Family Childcare

Maria Cisneros Family Childcare is a daycare in Bakersfield. Maria is a leader in the community and serves the union of child care providers for early childhood in Kern County. Maria has a certificate from UCLA extension in early childhood basic home program, which is equivalent to a teacher assistant. a Child Development Associate, and a Child Development Associate Teacher permit.

"I changed my cleaning products because the Safer Choice brand ones are less toxic for children and for me personally. I liked them because they clean well and the children are in a safer environment since we have to clean the classroom and wash the children's hands all day long. I am very happy with the change. I would recommend it to other educators and their daycare centers."

- Maria Cisneros, Child Care Provider

Why are children more vulnerable?

High exposure due to:

- Frequent contact with the ground or floor, where chemicals collect.
- Hand-to-mouth activity.
- Less varied diet.
- Eat, drink, and breath more per pound.
- Spend most of the time indoors.



If a chemical is present in air, food, or water, a greater amount will be taken in by a child in proportion to their body size than by an adult.

Products used before:

- Dawn Dish Soap
- Gain Laundry Detergent
- Glass Pluss
- Pine Sol
- Safeguard Hand Soap

- Clorox
- Member's Mark Floor Cleaner
- Bottle and Dish Soap
- Lysol

Business Profile:

Name: Maria Cisneros

Family Childcare

Business Type: Childcare Facility

Location: Bakersfield, CA

Enrollment Capacity: 14

Number of Children: 14

Age Range: 2 mo - 13

Daily Meals Provided:

2 snacks, 3 meals

Number of employees: 3

Indoor square footage:

900 sq ft

Outdoor square footage:

500 sq ft

Method of dishwashing:

Handwash

Loads of laundry per week: 3

Hand washing stations: 2

NAICS Code: 624410



Products used after:

- ECOS Window Cleaner with Vinegar Simple Green All Purpose
- ECOS PRO Hand Soap
- ECOS Laundry Detergent Liquid
- Clorox EcoClean All-Purpose Cleaner
- Bona Multi-Surface Floor Cleaner Refill
- Simple Green All Purpose
 Cleaner Spray and Refill
- Seventh Generation Hand and Dish Soap Refill
- CLR Brilliant Bath Foaming Bathroom Cleaner



For this program safer cleaning supplies include: EPA certified Safer Choice, GreenSeal Certified products and/or Environmental Working Group evaluated products.

Results

Old Item	New Item	Use Frequency (Per Day)	Square Feet of Area Cleaned	Number of People Exposed*	Number of Exposures (per week)	Number of Exposures over 1 year period**
Dawn Dish Soap	Seventh Generation Free & Clear Liquid Dish Soap	6	5	3	90	4,500
Gain Laundry Soap	ECOS Laundry Detergent Liquid	0.28	0	17	23.8	1,190
Glass Plus	ECOS Window Cleaner with Vinegar	0.28	20	17	1700	85,000
Pine Sol	Bona Multi-Surface Floor Cleaner	1	960	17	81600	4,080,000
Safeguard Hand Soap	ECOS PRO Hand Soap	50	5	17	425	21,250
Clorox	CLR Brilliant Bath Foaming Bathroom Cleaner Spray & Seventh Generation Toilet Bowl Cleaner	3	960	17	81600	4,080,000
Member's Mark Floor Cleaner	Bona Multi-Surface Floor Cleaner Refill	2	960	17	81600	4,080,000
Bottle & Dish Soap	Seventh Generation Hand Dish Wash Refill, Free & Clear	6	5	3	75	3,750
Lysol	Simple Green AllPurpose Cleaner Spray and Refill & CloroxPro Clorox EcoClean All-Purpose Cleaner	2	960	17	81600	4,080,000

^{*}students and care-providers

Total Impact

16,435,690

Individual Exposures Eliminated 32,980

Surface Area Exposures Eliminated

This project was financially supported through an EPA Region 9 Source Reduction Assistance/Pollution Prevention Grant and technical assistance was provided by the California Green Business Network.

^{**50} weeks, assuming facility is closed 2 weeks each year