✔ kid checker

Help us determine if your playground is safe!

Check YES or NO in each box to determine whether or not your playground has problems.

	*S*upervision	*A*ge Appropriate	*F*all Surfacing	*E*quipment Maintenance
RED — Most Serious — May Cause Death	*Are adults at the playground?* YES / NO Adults should always be at the playground if children are there.	*Are the play areas separated?* YES / NO If play areas are provided for preschoolers (ages 2-5), there should be a separate play area for school age children (ages 5-12).	*Does the surface have appropriate materials?* YES / NO Appropriate materials are sand, pea gravel, wood products, shredded rubber, rubber mats or poured-in-place rubber.	*Are all the spaces less than 3 1/2 inches or greater than 9 inches?* YES / NO Spaces that are between 3 1/2 inches and 9 inches can cause strangulation.
WHITE — Very Serious — May Cause Severe Injuries	*Can adults see children in crawl spaces?* YES / NO Crawl spaces are places where children can hide.	*Is the equipment at the correct height?* YES / NO Equipment should be below 8 feet for children ages 5-12.	*Are the materials 12 inches deep?* YES / NO Sand, pea gravel, wood products, or shredded rubber should be 12 inches deep.	*Is the equipment in good condition?* YES / NO The equipment should not have any broken parts.
BLUE — Serious — May Cause Minor Injury	*Are there rules posted?* YES / NO Rules should be posted at the playground to tell children what to do and what not to do.	*Are signs posted about supervision and separation of equipment?* YES / NO There should be signs about adult supervision and separation of play areas (2-5 and 5-12).	*Is the playground environment clean?* YES / NO The playground area should not have trash on the ground.	*Is the equipment surface smooth?* YES / NO The playground should have no rust or splinters on the equipment.

Once you have completed each box, please turn the page over to find out what to do about problems.

Thanks for being a *Kid Checker*

The boxes that are checked NO are problem areas that need immediate attention. You should report the problems to one or more of the following:

- Parent
- Teacher
- PTA President
- Principal
- Child Care Director
- Park Department Director

You can continue to help make your playground SAFE:

- *Check the playground for safe conditions*
- *Pick up the trash*
- *Help make adults aware of equipment that needs fixing*
- *Play on the playground once it is safe*
- *Teach other children about the importance of playground safety*

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

THE PLAYGROUND THAT YOU CHECKED WAS AT A:

SCHOOL _____ PARK _____ CHILD CARE _____

To receive your *Kid-Checker Certificate* send this information to:
The National program for Playground Safety
University of Northern Iowa
WRC 205
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0618

America's Playgrounds – Make Them Safe!