

Home Visiting Safety



Professional Development Learning Bundle
for the Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program

CONTENTS OF THIS BUNDLE

1

Something to WATCH

Watch Home Visiting Safety: Staying Safe & Aware on the Job (7:42).

2

Something to READ

Read "Home Visit Safety" found at [headstart.gov](https://www.headstart.gov) as part of their Home Visitor Supervisor's Handbook.

3

Something to DO

Complete the Home Visiting Safety Checklist to take a closer look at your program's safety practices.

4

Something to REFLECT UPON

Use our reflection questions to guide a deeper team discussion around safely home visiting.

Something to **WATCH**



7 min 42 sec

HOME VISITOR SAFETY STAYING SAFE AND AWARE ON THE JOB



WATCH - "Home Visiting Safety: Staying Safe & Aware on the Job". This YouTube video was created by the Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Public Health Division, Maternal and Child Health Section. The intended audience is public health home visitors, although many of the tips and topics discussed are applicable to other fields as well.

Something to **READ**



Home Visit Safety



READ - "Home Visit Safety" found at headstart.gov (part of the Home Visitor Supervisor's Handbook). It discusses why feeling safe is critical to a home visitor's effectiveness and how careful attention and good planning can support safety at many levels.



Something to DO



HOME VISITING Safety Checklist

This checklist was designed for the Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program. It outlines key steps for preparation, situational awareness, and response during home visits. It is intended to be used as a shared tool with your early intervention team to strengthen safety, communication, and consistency across visits.

BEFORE THE VISIT *Preparation and Planning*

- Review family information prior to visit (address, family members, pets, safety concerns).
- Confirm the appointment date, time, and purpose with the family in advance.
- Share your visit schedule, including address, intended participants, length of visit and expected return time via your program's communication plan.
- Ensure your phone is charged and emergency contacts are readily available.
- Plan your route - know the area, parking options, and nearest exits or safe public spaces.
- Avoid scheduling visits after dark or in isolated areas when possible.
- Bring only materials needed for the home visit. Make sure that any valuables are securely locked and out of sight in your vehicle.
- Dress professionally but comfortably, allowing for quick movement if needed.

ARRIVAL AND ENVIRONMENT CHECK *Situational Awareness*

- Park in a visible, well-lit area facing the direction you'll leave.
- Check surroundings before exiting your vehicle; avoid carrying large or multiple items.
- Note the address and surroundings - confirm you're at the correct home.
- Observe activity outside the home (people loitering, aggressive animals, etc.).
- Trust your instincts - if anything feels unsafe, it's OK to leave!



DO - Complete the Home Visiting Safety Checklist with your team. This checklist will help to guide a conversation around strengthening safety, communication, and consistency across visits. Downloading the checklist will make it fillable.

Something to **REFLECT** Upon



REFLECT - Please take a few minutes to use these reflective questions to reflect as a TEAM about your program's home visit preparedness, policies and practices.

- *How have we ensured that everyone feels prepared and supported before going out on home visits? What strategies or habits (team or individual) help us feel safe?*
- *How do we balance our own comfort and safety while still honoring each individual family's home and routines? What challenges or "gray areas" have we encountered?*
- *If a safety concern or uncomfortable situation arises, how can we best support each other in responding appropriately and processing the experience afterward?*
- *Are there individuals, such as law enforcement, that we could partner with to discuss the unique safety concerns that exist in our community?*

Check in with your team to discuss this PD bundle and how this information can support children and families.



Would you mind taking a moment to provide feedback about this PD bundle?

Please click on the form below to fill out a very short survey. Thank you!





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUNDLE
FEEDBACK FORM



Bundle Feedback Form

Thank you for viewing one of our PD Learning Bundles, we hope that you found it helpful. We appreciate your taking a moment to give us feedback about the Bundle. Your input is important and guides our work.

THANK YOU FOR
LEARNING WITH US.

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