

Active Supervision: Identifying Hot Spots

It is important to know where the “hot spots” and “blind spots” are in classrooms and on the play spaces. Draw a map of a classroom or playground in the space below. Spend some time observing children. Each time you see a problem behavior or an injury, mark an X where it occurred. At the end of your observation, look for patterns. Which areas have the most X’s? Discuss your findings with the teaching team. Consider posting cutouts of suns in the hotspots and sunglasses in the blind spots to remind staff members to be extra watchful in those areas.



Now talk with the team about the patterns you saw. What supervision changes could prevent these problems?

Hot Spot	Possible Reasons for Problem	Solutions
<i>Sample: Under the climbing structure</i>	<i>Children can hide out of sight</i>	<i>Carla will stand on the back end of the playground to visually supervise the area</i>