

BITING POLICY

Unfortunately, at some time during the year your child may come home with "teeth marks" on his/her body. Biting can be a scary incident and every effort is made by teachers to watch children carefully so that biting does not occur. However, when young children do not have verbal skills necessary to communicate their feelings, they often lash out at the nearest person, whether that person is the cause of the frustration or not. Fortunately, this should be a short, passing phase and only warrants concern if it continues.

When a biting incident occurs in a room of children younger than 4 years of age, both children are dealt with by the teachers and the following steps are taken:

1. The biter is told firmly, "No biting, that hurts" and is separated from the other child. The victim is consoled, and any medical attention needed is given. Any biting incident will be reported in writing and verbally to the parents of both children.
2. If a second bite occurs, there will be a parent meeting with teachers and a plan of action will be established.
3. If the behavior continues, the parents will be asked for the child to take a "short break" from school (usually 5 school days) to see if time away can solve the problem.
4. If biting continues after the break, the family will be asked to take their child out of our center.

****Any biting incidents by children 4 years of age and older will be immediately referred to the director and result in a parent conference. If the behavior occurs again, the child will be asked to leave our school.**

*****These steps are the same steps our center uses when a child's behavior is consistently negative behavior. *****