

Weather-Related Outdoor Play Guidelines

The Schedule of Daily Activities for All Children (as posted in each classroom) includes outdoor play in the morning and afternoon- Except that outdoor play need not be included during periods of **inclement weather**.

The **CHILD CARE WEATHER WATCH CHART** is an important tool that helps childcare administrators and teachers to keep track of weather conditions that can impact children's health and safety.

This resource, developed by MSDE, provides programs with information to determine safe weather-related conditions for children to play outside.

We routinely reference this chart's recommendations, along with Weather.com and Alert Montgomery to monitor temperature, humidity, air quality, and other environmental factors that can affect young children's well-being. Note: The length of afternoon outdoor time is seasonally affected by the return to Standard Time.

The decision to include outdoor playtime on a particular day, or time of day is determined by the Center MOD and is based on the best available information.

For outdoor playtime parents should provide clothing that is weather-appropriate, including layers for changing temperatures, comfortable, durable, and easy to put on and take off, with key items like a hat, gloves/mittens (in colder weather), sunscreen-protective clothing (in warm weather), and sturdy shoes suitable for outdoor play; always check with your specific teacher for their clothing guidelines

https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/system/files/filedepot/3/child_care_weather_watch.pdf