

# Does your classroom pass the test?

To help prevent poisonings in the classroom, here are a few simple steps to keep kids safe at daycare and school:

- Handwashing works better than hand sanitizers. Encourage frequent handwashing among students and staff.
- Always carefully read the label before selecting any cleaning products to use in your classroom, including sanitizers and disinfectants. The "Directions for Use" are specific to each product, and the product may not work if you don't follow them.
- Do NOT mix different cleaning, sanitizing, or disinfectant chemicals!
- Children can help tidy up, but only adults should be allowed to use cleaning products.
- Products meant to kill germs ("antimicrobial" products like sanitizers and disinfectants) should be used only when children are not present.
- When using an antimicrobial product, make sure the area is well ventilated while the product is being used and before the area is reoccupied, especially by children.
- All cleaners, sanitizers, and disinfectants should be stored out of sight and reach of children, and in their original containers. Read the label for instructions when it's time to throw them away.
- When using an antimicrobial product, make sure the area is well ventilated while the product is being used and before the area is reoccupied, especially by children.
- An adult should always apply insect repellents, and students and staff should wash their hands after each application.
- If your classroom has a pest problem, report it rather than trying to control it yourself. Pest control within schools should be done by your school IPM (integrated pest management) coordinator or a certified applicator.
- Be prepared in case of a poisoning emergency. Save the contact information for poison control (1-800-222-1222) in your phone, and post it somewhere visible in your classroom.
- If you have general questions about selecting, storing, using, or disposing of insect repellents, antimicrobials, and other pesticides, contact NPIC at 800-858-7378.