**Meal Pattern Revisions: Graham Crackers and Animal Crackers**

USDA recently announced graham crackers and animal crackers will **not** be considered grain-based desserts and will continue to be creditable for CACFP as of October 1, 2017. However, since sweet crackers have a higher added sugar content, child care facilities should limit the service of graham crackers and animal crackers.

For more information about changes to the meal pattern, visit [scchildcare.org](http://scchildcare.org).

**Product Recalls**

DSS Regulation 114-507C(2) states that furniture, toys and recreational equipment shall meet the standards of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), if applicable, and that recalled products shall **not** be accessible to children. For more information, call CPSC’s hotline at 800-638-2772 or visit their website: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov). To report a dangerous product or related injury, go to [http://saferproducts.gov](http://saferproducts.gov).

- **Homestar North America Three-Drawer TV Chests** due to tip-over and entrapment hazards.
- **Burt’s Bees Baby Infant Coveralls** due to choking hazard caused by detachable snap.
- **TOMY Munching Max Chipmunk Toys** due to laceration hazard.
- **Manhattan Toy Activity Toys** due to choking hazard caused by defective colored plastic tubes.

**Look Before You Lock!**

Heatstroke is the number two killer of children behind car crashes. On average, vehicular heatstroke claims the lives of 37 children every year. More than half of those deaths are children under age 2. Each of these deaths is tragic, and all of them are preventable. The inside of a vehicle heats up extremely quickly. Even with cracked windows, the temperature inside a parked car rises an average of 40 degrees within an hour, regardless of the temperature outside. Eighty percent of the temperature increase occurs in the first ten minutes. Cracking the windows doesn’t slow the heating or reduce the maximum temperature. Children have died from vehicular heatstroke with temperatures as low as 60 degrees outside. This is largely because a child’s body overheats three to five times faster than an adult’s body. To prevent vehicular heatstroke, please be mindful of the following causes and tips for prevention to keep children safe and alive. [kidsandcars.org](http://kidsandcars.org), [Office of Child Care](http://oeci.ks.gov), [noheatstroke.org](http://noheatstroke.org)

**Things that can cause caregivers to forget children in a car**

- Changes in daily routine
- Fatigue, lack of sleep, hormone changes
- Phone calls, stress, or other simple distractions
- Rear-facing car seats look the same whether baby is in it or not

**Prevention**

- Make it part of your daily routine to account for all children in your care.
- NEVER leave a child unattended in the vehicle, even if the windows are cracked or the engine is running with air conditioning on.
- Get in the habit of looking in the entire vehicle before locking the door and walking away. Check both the front and back.
- Create reminders, try placing an item needed at your final destination (cell phone, handbag, brief case, employee ID, etc.) in the back of the vehicle next to the child.
- Keep a large stuffed animal in the child’s car seat. When the child is placed in the car seat, place the stuffed animal in the front passenger seat. This will serve as a visual reminder that the child is in the back seat.