

Playground and Equipment Safety Checks: What to Inspect Daily

Picture This



This image shows a busy playground where children are actively using slides, swings, and climbing structures during recess. A staff member is supervising from a distance, but no visible inspection has been done before use. One swing chain shows signs of wear and rust, a slide surface appears wet and slightly uneven, and bolts on a climbing structure look loose. Nearby, the ground covering is uneven with exposed hard patches where protective surfacing has worn away. Toys and small objects are scattered across the play area, creating hidden trip hazards as children run and play without noticing the risks.

In playground environments, serious injuries often happen not because of one major failure, but because small hazards go unnoticed and uncorrected. Worn equipment, loose hardware, damaged surfaces, and poor housekeeping can quickly lead to falls,

entrapments, or struck-by incidents. Children move fast, take risks, and rely on the environment being safe, which means daily inspections are critical. Always check equipment for stability, inspect chains, bolts, and connections, ensure surfaces are even and impact-absorbing, remove debris, and address hazards immediately before children use the area. A quick inspection can prevent a serious injury.