Slips, Trips, and Playroom Falls: Managing Floor Hazards in Busy Spaces Fatality File

Toddler Suffers Serious Head Injury After Slip on Wet Floor

A toddler in a licensed childcare centre suffered a serious head injury after slipping on a wet floor near a handwashing station. Earlier in the morning, water had splashed onto the floor during cleanup after snack time. The area was not immediately dried because staff were assisting children with transitions to the next activity.

The child ran toward the play area, slipped on the damp surface, and struck their head on the floor. Emergency services were called, and the child was transported to hospital with a concussion and facial injuries.

The investigation found that while staff were attentive and responsive after the fall, the hazard had gone unnoticed during a busy moment. Following the incident, the centre updated procedures to require immediate spill response and assigned one educator to monitor floor conditions during transitions.

The incident reinforced that even brief delays in addressing floor hazards can lead to serious injuries.

Source: https://www.wfaa.com/