

Supervising children at play

Good adult supervision involves careful, attentive monitoring of a child at play

Children 2 to 6 years should always be within sight and sound of an adult during play. Because they are slowly developing their muscles and balance and are learning about spatial relationships and problem solving, this age group is most vulnerable to agricultural injury. Children this age depend entirely on adults to provide them with appropriate, safe opportunities.

Children 7 to 9 years have increased mobility and require larger spaces for play. Adults should check on children every 15 minutes during play.

Children 10 years can be left to play out of sight and sound of an adult for up to 30 minutes, depending on play activities. Children this age are very mobile. They begin seeking new play experiences that are more complex and may pose greater risk for harm. These children do not fully understand hazards or potential consequences of hazards.

