**⓱ Not appropriate Equipment for any age group:** trampolines, swinging gates, giant strides, climbing ropes not secured at ends, animal figure swings, multiple occupancy swings, and swinging dual exercise rings and trapeze bars.

**Not appropriate for preschool children (ages 2-5):** freestandingarch climbers, freestanding climbing equipment with flexible components, fulcrum seesaws, and log rolls, track rides, spiral slides with more than one 360 degree turn, parallel bars, and vertical sliding poles.

**Slides (ages 2-5)**: **Should not exceed 8 ft. in height**. For slides greater than 6 ft. (maximum 8 ft.), the use zone at the exit should be as long as the slide is high.

**Horizontal ladders and overhead rings are not appropriate for children 3 years and younger*.*** The **maximum height for 4-5year olds is 60 inches**- this only applies to horizontal ladders and overhead rings.

**In addition to the equipment listed above, the following equipment is not appropriate for infants and toddlers (6months**-**2 years**): rung ladders, merry-go-rounds, rotating tire swings, spiral slides with a full 360 degree turn, balance beams.

**Climbing Equipment**-**Under two years:** Can be no more than 32 inches high.

**Check**: Catch points, open “S” hooks, exposed hardware that can cut children, head entrapments, pinch, crush, shearing, or sharp hazards, and tripping hazards**. Protruding Bolts** may only have 2 threads showing.

**Head entrapments** are any opening that measures 3.5- 9 inches where children could get their bodies through and their heads stuck. Depending on the location this can be a major or a minor hazard. Fence openings are allowed to be 4 inches wide. Openings in chairs, benches, or tires are **not considered** head entrapments.

**Fence Height**: Child care center-minimum of 48 inches, latches 34-48 inches; Family child care home-minimum of 48 inches, latches minimum 34 inches.

**Frozen Cushioning**: If children do not use the equipment because it is frozen, cushioning **should not** be marked as a safety hazard. When cushioning is frozen or snow covered it is no longer considered cushioning surface and children should be prevented from using the equipment.

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| **Slides** | **Height of slide** | **Exit Height** |
| **Under 2 yrs.** | Max. 32 in. high | 6 in. or less |
| **2 yrs. and up** | 0 -3.99 ft. | 11 in. or less |
| **2 yrs. and up** | 4 ft. + | At least 7in. but no more than 15 in. |

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| **Swings** | **Distance Between** | **Distance from Ground** |
| **Single-axis-Preschool** | No more than 2 swing per bay. Between swing at rest: 24 in. Between swing & support structure: 30 in. | 12 in. from ground |
| **Tot Swings-single axis. Without adult assistance** | No more than 2 swing per bay. Distance between swing and support structure: 20 in. | At least 6 in. but no more than 8 in. from the ground |
| **Tot Swings-With adult assistance** | Same as tot swings-single axis  Between swing at rest: 20 in. | The seat should rest at least 24 in. from the ground |
| **Tire Swing** | Only one per bay | Min. of 12 in. from ground |

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| **Protective Barriers** | **Under 2 years** | **Preschool** |
| **Requirement** | Required for equipment over 18 in. tall | Required for equipment over 30 in. above ground |
| **Height of barrier** | 24 in. tall | Top surface should be 29in. above platform. |

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| **Spring Rockers** | **Height** | **Use Zone** |
| **Under 2 yrs.** | 12-16 inches | 6ft. when adjacent equipment is 30 in. or less |
| **2 yrs. and up** | 14-28 inches | 9ft. when adjacent equipment is more than 30in. |

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| **Minimum compressed loose-fill surfacing depths** |
| Inches of (loose-fill material) Protects to fall height (ft.) |
| \* 6 Shredded/recycled rubber 10 |
| 9 Sand 4 |
| 9 Pea Gravel 5 |
| 9 Wood mulch (non-CCA) 7 |
| 9 Wood Chips 10 |

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| **Types of Equipment** | **Under 2 years**  **Use Zone** | **Types of**  **Equipment** | **2+ years**  **Use Zone** |
| **Slide: 0-2 yrs.** | Equipment 18-32 in. 6 feet at the end of the slide and 3ft. in all other directions | **Slide: 2 + yrs.** | 6 feet in all directions and max of 8 ft. if slide is over 6ft. high. |
| **Swing: 0-2 yrs.** | Tot swing: 2 times length of pivot point to swing seat. In front and back. Support structure: 3 ft. of clear space to the side | **Swings: 2+ yrs.** | Single Axis:2 times length of pivot point to the surface below in front and back |
| **Tire swings: 0-2 yrs.** | Not rec’d. If have tire swing that doesn’t rotate, apply fall zone req. for single axis swing | **Tire Swings:**  **2+ years** | Distance of 6 feet plus the measurement from the pivot point to the swing seat and 30 in.+ measurement from the pivot point to the swing seat to the support structure |
| **All other stationary: 0-2 yrs.** | Equipment 18 in. high should have equipment spaced 3 feet apart | **All other stationary: 2+ yrs.** | 30 in. high or less: 6 feet apart  31 in. or higher: 9 feet apart (shared use zone) |

**\***CPSC has determined shredded/recycled rubber does not compress in the same manner as other materials.

For poured or installed surfaces, materials must meet **ASTM 1292** and programs must provide documentation.

**For more information on playground requirements see** [**http://ersi.info/PDF/playground\_revised\_10-3-13.pdf**](http://ersi.info/PDF/playground_revised_10-3-13.pdf)**.**