Keeping Healthy and Safe: Face Coverings

Young children are learning to wear face coverings and to see others wearing them. Adults can support them with simple explanations, visual supports, and practice.

Provide a Simple Explanation

Use simple phrases, such as "People wear masks so they won't pass their germs to another person.



When everyone wears masks, we all keep our germs to ourselves."

Set Them Up for Success

Demonstrate the correct way to put on and wear a mask and remind them to avoid touching or fidgeting with their masks.



Use Visual Supports

Provide pictures of masks. Post pictures of family members, classmates, teachers, and the children wearing masks.



Provide Practice and Encouragement

Provide encouragement for children to wear face coverings and praise their success.



Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this tip sheet are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Illinois State Board of Education.



13 Children's Research Center University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 51 Gerty Dr. ● Champaign, IL 61820-7469 Telephone: 217-333-1386 Toll-free: 877-275-3227 E-mail: iel@illinois.edu https://illinoisearlylearning.org

