
Good News Department

Keeping Fun Safe

(NAPSA)—Making sure that kids have safe places to have fun can be child's play. Experts say all it takes is a little neighborhood cooperation and a few tips to make playgrounds even better—and more fun—than they already are.



Friends and neighbors can work together to spruce up their children's playgrounds.

- **Get It Clean**—Have a basic playground pick-me-up. Dispose of debris, check the playground surface for inappropriate items and add a fresh coat of paint to equipment. Often, community and city leaders will donate materials.

- **Make It Bright**—Convert asphalt lots or concrete sidewalks to game boards for hop scotch or painted maps of the world. Bare walls can hold splashy murals designed by children.

- **Make It Safe**—Report broken equipment, teach children to play correctly and talk regularly with officials about playground goings-on.

- **Get Help**—KaBOOM!, a national non-profit organization, works with communities to improve places young people play. The group offers a free guide and a Web site that can give concerned parents tips and safety guidelines to help keep playgrounds safe and fun.

For more information, request a Getting Started Kit online at www.kaboom.org.