### Fencing Guidelines and Recommendations

#### Recommended Fencing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Fencing</th>
<th>Attributes/Concerns</th>
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</table>
| **Mesh**        | • Can be fitted to existing fence  
                  • Attach mesh to railing to prevent sagging  
                  • Mesh can unravel leading to ineffectiveness (reinforced vinyl borders on all 4 sides is recommended) |
| **Panel**       | • Challenging to climb  
                  • Some models do not allow for visual supervision from outside |
| **Privacy**     | • Challenging to climb  
                  • Difficult to visually supervise from the outside |
| **Wrought Iron**| • Challenging to climb  
                  • Space between vertical members must be less than 3½ inches  
                  • Avoid models with spikes – can cause puncture wounds |
| **Chain Link** | • Fence offers long-lasting stability  
                  • Easy to climb (can add weaving to minimize climbing)  
                  • Cover exposed points - could cause puncture wounds |

#### Cautionary Fencing

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| **Hedge**       | • Must be thick enough to achieve boundaries  
                  • Sharp twigs – can cause puncture wounds  
                  • Requires weekly inspection for sharp twigs and holes in safe play area barrier |
| **Galvanized Net** | • Larger grades easily climbed - can cause head injury  
                        • Sharp points – can cause puncture/scrapes |
| **Net**         | • Wire uncomfortable for fingers and toes  
                  • Sharp ends – can cause puncture wounds  
                  • Requires monthly inspection for sharp edges |
| **Plastic Snow Fence** | • Bendable – can cause entanglement  
                         • Fence can be easily knocked down  
                         • Children can easily crawl beneath fence  
                         • Deteriorates – need for yearly replacement |

#### Not Recommended

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| **Split-Rail**  | • Easily climbed – can cause head injury  
                  • Easily crawled through  
                  • Spacing of horizontal members – could cause head entrapment |
| **Welded Wire** | • Easily climbed – can cause head injury  
                  • Bendable – can cause entanglement |
| **Picket**      | • Easily climbed – can cause head/neck injury and puncture wounds |
| **Garden**      | • Easily climbed – can cause head injury  
                  • Bendable - can cause entrapment |

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The following charts can be downloaded and printed from: [http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/safeplay/keystocreate/](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/safeplay/keystocreate/)