



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE  
COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF  
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS**

**DATE OF REPORT**  
9/30/2019

**DVN**  
002547453

**FACILITY NAME**

LITTLE BLESSINGS DAYCARE LLC

**FACILITY ADDRESS**

1264 E CLINTON AVE

**CITY**

SEYMOUR

**ZIP CODE**

65746-9070

**PHONE NUMBER**

(417) 935-2135

**COUNTY**

WEBSTER

**ASSIGNED SPECIALIST**

COX, ELAINE S

**RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)**

**VIOLATION(S)**

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(2)

Expectations for a child's behavior shall be appropriate for the developmental level of that child.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(4)

Praise and encouragement of good behavior shall be used instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(7)

Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting or pulling hair shall be prohibited.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(8)

No discipline technique which is humiliating, threatening or frightening to children shall be used. Children shall not be shamed, ridiculed or spoken to harshly, abusively or with profanity.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(9)

Punishment or threat of punishment shall not be associated with food, rest or toilet training.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(E)(6)

Caregivers changing diapers shall wash their hands with soap and running water each time after changing a child's diaper.

19 CSR 30-62.092 (1)(B)(2)(G)

Cribs, portable cribs and playpens shall be free of soft objects, loose bedding or any object that can increase the risk of entrapment, suffocation or strangulation. Examples include bumper pads, pillows, quilts, comforters, sleep positioning devices, sheepskins, blankets, flat sheets, cloth diapers, bibs, pillow-like toys, wedges, infant positioners, special mattresses, special sleep surfaces, and other similar items.

**CONCLUSION SUMMARY**

The Section for Child Care Regulation (SCCR) determined the facility violated the above licensing rules when caregiver Amber Plummer was observed on video surveillance slapping Child A on the hand and the leg and Child B on the hand . CCFS Elaine Cox observed and documented video from September 24, 2019 and September 26, 2019, for the investigation. In the video, Child A and Child B are observed sitting in high chairs or at a table for up to five (5) minutes wearing bibs. Video shows the children are expected to sit quietly and keep their bibs in place. Amber Plummer and Deanna Bennett, the caregivers in the room, required the children to remain seated, and leave their bibs in place, when the bib was the only "toy" accessible to the child. Caregivers were observed only interacting with the children to scold them for getting up or taking off their bibs .

Video from September 24, 2019, show Amber Plummer slapping Child A on the hand. She is also heard speaking to Child A in a harsh voice telling Child A to "sit down". Video from September 26, 2019, show Ms. Plummer slapping Child A on the leg, and placing Child A on a cot for punishment. Ms. Plummer was also observed slapping Child B on the right hand two (2) times for taking his bib off his neck.

Video from September 24, 2019, shows Amber Plummer was observed covering Child B (dob 10-18-18) with a blanket in the crib which is a violation of safe sleep for infants.

CCFS Cox documented from September 26, 2019 video, caregiver Deanna Bennett changing a child's diaper without washing the child's hands or her own hands. Deanna Bennett was observed touching an iPad, a child's bottle, and changing another child's diaper. The video ended at 11:08 AM and Deanna Bennett had not washed her hands.

**CORRECTIVE MEASURES****CORRECTIVE MEASURE**

All caregivers and the director shall obtain two (2) hours of approved face to face training which shall include developmentally appropriate behavioral expectations of children in care and appropriate discipline for children.

**COMPLETED (Y/N)**

Yes

**COMPLETED DATE**

1/24/2020

**CORRECTIVE MEASURE**

The facility shall complete a review and training on proper handwashing and the director shall be responsible for observing diapering and documenting proper techniques for a period of two weeks. Diapering charts shall be maintained on site for review by SCCR.

**COMPLETED (Y/N)**

Yes

**COMPLETED DATE**

1/21/2020

**CORRECTIVE MEASURE**

All caregivers, facility director and volunteers shall obtain one clock hour of safe sleep.

**COMPLETED (Y/N)**

Yes

**COMPLETED DATE**

1/22/2020

**DISPOSITION**

SUBSTANTIATED

**DISPOSITION DATE**

11/22/2019

**APPROVING SUPERVISOR**

WHITE, LEAH