

Sick and Tired...

Even in the best programs, serious illness can occur. Read the following scenarios and describe how you would respond.

Scenario	I would
Brenda is a staff person in your preschool program. She has not been feeling very well for a few days. This morning her cheeks are bright red and you can tell something is wrong. You are not a doctor, but you can't help but suspect she has a serious illness. You think her symptoms are very similar to what a child with Fifth Disease showed recently. When you ask her to go home and see a doctor, she tells you she has already used all her sick leave and can't afford to take the time off.	
An infant in your program was just diagnosed with whooping cough. You and the staff members posted a sign outside the door saying a child was diagnosed with that illness. Family members from classrooms throughout the program are waiting to talk to you. They want to know who is sick and whether their child had contact.	
Three children in your school-age program are out sick with mononucleosis (the "kissing disease"). No one is sure how it spread between the children, but your staff members want to know what they should do to make sure it doesn't spread any further through the program.	