

## Child Abuse Scenarios

1. You work in a classroom that has a window that looks out into the parking lot of your childcare center. One afternoon you look outside and see one of the children from your class and his mom walking out to their car. The little boy is screaming and crying because he was acting up when his mom picked him up. Mom is a smoker, and it appears she's become extremely frustrated. She reaches down and touches the boy on the arm with what appears to be the end of her cigarette, which only makes the little boy scream louder. You're not sure if that's what happened or not, but you see the burn mark on the boy's arm the next day at preschool. What type of abuse is this? Should you report the mother? Why or why not?

2. You are concerned about a 3 year-old girl that has been coming to your center for over a year. Recently she has been demonstrating some of the behaviors of someone that has been sexually abused. You are concerned about the child because today she told you that her mommy's boyfriend likes to play the "touching" game. You want the situation investigated. What do you do? Before calling Community Based Services you want to do a little more investigating of your own. Is this ok? Why or why not? How does the investigation through Social Services work?

3. There's a 4 year-old boy that you suspect is being neglected. He comes to the center every morning and eats at least 3 times the amount of breakfast as the others. He's made some comments to you about sometimes having rice for dinner but most evenings and weekends he gets sent to bed without food. You decide to report his dad (who's a single father) to Community Based Services, and they investigate the case. You call CBS back a week later to see what they have found out about the 4 year-old boy and his dad. Is the Department of Social Services allowed to divulge information about an investigation to someone? If so, what are the circumstances?