

NEXT STEPS

The next steps focus on launching this as a structured after-school program that supports families and builds student confidence. We will finalize scheduling, secure space, and prepare materials for hands-on safety lessons. Families will receive information about enrollment and program expectations. Students will participate in guided activities, practice stations, and real-world safety scenarios. As the program grows, we will monitor progress, celebrate student achievements, and strengthen school-family partnerships around safety and independence.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to our school community, dedicated staff, and supportive families who believe in empowering children with real-world safety skills. Thank you to the students whose curiosity and courage inspire this work. Together, we are creating a safer, more confident environment where every child can learn, grow, and feel prepared.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Home Alone Pro



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY/Ohio Statewide
Family Engagement Center

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INTRODUCTION/NEED ADDRESSED

As a dedicated Grandparent and active leader in our elementary school community, I believe every child deserves the chance to feel safe, confident, and prepared when they are home alone. Many families juggle busy schedules, and children may spend short periods without direct supervision. My goal is to empower students with age-appropriate safety skills so they can make smart choices, respond calmly in unexpected situations, and know when and how to get help.

GOAL and OBJECTIVES

Goal: To empower students with the knowledge, confidence, and practical skills needed to stay safe when they are home alone or faced with minor emergencies. This after-school program supports families by helping children make calm, informed decisions in real-world situations.

Objectives: Students will learn to identify common home hazards and practice safe decision-making. They will demonstrate basic first-aid steps for cuts, scrapes, and minor burns, and recognize when to seek adult or emergency help. Students will also practice clear communication skills for calling 911 and explaining an emergency. Through hands-on activities and scenario-based learning, students will build lifelong safety awareness.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DESCRIPTION

This after-school program will be implemented through a structured, four-week sequence designed to build students' confidence and practical safety skills. Each session combines direct instruction, hands-on practice, and real-world scenarios so students can apply what they learn in meaningful ways. Weekly themes include home hazards, fire safety, first aid, choking awareness, and poison safety, allowing students to build skills gradually and revisit key concepts through guided repetition.

Instructors will introduce safety concepts using visuals, demonstrations, and short discussions. Students will rotate through practice stations where they identify hazards, rehearse first-aid steps, and role-play how to communicate during an emergency. These activities ensure learning is active, engaging, and accessible for all students. A skills checklist and quick formative assessments will help track progress throughout the program.

Families will receive take-home activities that reinforce safety routines and encourage conversations at home. The program concludes with a final assessment and a "Safety Hero" celebration to recognize student growth. By combining structured instruction, family engagement, and hands-on practice, this implementation plan ensures students gain the confidence and readiness needed to stay safe when home alone or faced with minor emergencies.

EXPECTED OUTCOME

By the end of this after-school program, students will demonstrate increased confidence and awareness in making safe choices when home alone. They will identify common hazards, respond appropriately to minor injuries, and recognize when to seek adult or emergency help. Students will also practice clear communication skills for calling 911 and explaining an emergency. Families will gain practical tools to reinforce safety routines at home, strengthening overall preparedness and supporting student independence.

EXPECTED CHALLENGES

Some students may feel unsure about discussing emergencies or practicing first-aid skills for the first time. Others may have limited experience with safety routines at home, which can affect confidence. Attendance and consistency may vary in an after-school setting, especially for families facing transportation barriers. Coordinating pickup times and ensuring safe travel home may require additional planning. With clear communication, supportive instruction, and repeated hands-on practice, all students can grow stronger and more prepared.