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**The Home Modification:
Information Clearinghouse Project**

Home Modifications for Children An Annotated Bibliography

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Baby Place. (1995). Childproofing your home. Retrieved June 20, 2005, from http://www.baby-place.com/safety_checklist.html

This website provides a checklist to make sure that your home is a safe haven for your children and you learn to spot and eliminate hazards throughout the house. Lists safety measures for every room.

Beresford, B., & Oldman, C. (2000). *Making homes fit for children: Working together to promote change in the lives of disabled children*. Bristol: Policy press.

Making homes fit for children argues that the current system for meeting the housing needs of disabled children and their families is not working and that access to suitable housing is central to basic human rights. The report provides a useful cross-sector overview of policy and legislation highlights the practical barriers to more effective services and suggest solutions, giving good practice evidence and recommendations.

Beresford, B., & Oldman, C. (2002). *Housing matters; national evidence relating to disabled children and their housing*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Housing matters reports the findings of a survey of nationally representative sample of 3000 parents of disabled children in England. The survey examined parents' responses to their housing need, and their experience of housing adaptation services. An invaluable resource to social services and housing departments, housing providers, architects and those with responsibility at a national level for meeting the needs of disabled children and their families

Cantu, C. O. (2003). Home modification for independence and success. *The Exceptional Parent*, 33(3), p.38-41.

Providing the most effective environment for children with special needs can be challenging and seemingly expensive, But with sensible, creative adaptations to everyday problems, the home environment can be modified surprisingly

inexpensively to promote development, independent function, and success. Common categorized concerns and modifications are suggested.

Duger, T., Yilmaz, O., Aki, E., Kayihan, H., & Karaduman, A. (2003). *The environmental barriers of children with muscular dystrophies and its effect on mothers low back pain*. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 25(20), 1187-1192.

When looking at pediatric disabilities, loss of physical function is related with the appropriateness of environmental factors. Equipments, assistive devices or the architectural features that restrict the activities in and outside the home affect the independence level of children directly. The aim of this study is to determine the architectural barriers of children with MD at home, according to their diminished functional capacity and its effect on their mothers' back problems.

Goldsmith, S. (2000). *Universal design: A manual of practical guidance for architects*. Oxford: Architectural press.

This manual describes and illustrates the differences between universal design and design 'for the disabled'. Covering both public buildings and private housing, it includes informative anthropometric data and 370 instructive diagrams. *Universal design* is a clear and concise design guide for practicing and student architects.

Johnson, M., Duncan, R., Gabriel, A., & Carter, M. (1999). *Home modifications and products for safety and ease of use*. Retrieved May 4, 2005, from http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/built_env/housing/article_hmod.htm

This article suggests numerous modifications and products that can help when one's abilities or physical conditions change. Most of the suggestions address mild-to-moderate-level problems, which are more typical than severe ones, for example low vision, hearing impairment and mobility etc. The suggestions are not intended to be comprehensive, they are meant to alert consumers, family members, friends, rehabilitation and remodeling industry professionals.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation. (2000). Improving housing services for disabled children and their families. Retrieved May 4, 2005, from <http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/finding/socialcare/pdf/670.pdf>

The purpose of this project was to work with practitioners from housing, social services and health authorities to identify current problems in improving the housing situation for families. It also aimed to generate possible solutions - drawn either from experiences of good practice or from creative thinking and discussions with colleagues from different professional groups or agencies.

KG investments LLC. (2005). Kidsgrowth child health. Retrieved June 6, 2005, from <http://www.kidsgrowth.com/index2.cfm>

KidsGrowth.com is a unique Web site tailored specifically toward the concerns and interests of today's parents. The site was developed and created by well-respected practitioners in the field of pediatrics and adolescent medicine. Featured resources include parenting and behaviour, child development, childhood conditions, growth milestones and growth charts. Advice centre provides patient handouts on all featured resources that may be printed out. Also includes parenting tips and interactive quizzes. Navigating the website is easy with side menus and a keyword search facility. A valuable site of all parents.

Korpela, R. A. (1992). A regional survey of the housing circumstances of families with children experiencing intellectual and motor disabilities. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 14(4), 176-182.

This study evaluated the housing conditions and the need for modifications, of 204 families in Finland with disabled children using various technical aids. 160 families had no housing modifications, but 48 families needed modifications to bathrooms and toilets. Includes detailed statistical data. The study concluded that housing modifications should be part of basic information on rehabilitation services--for instance changing the opening direction of bathroom doors, fixing rails, removing doorsteps, building ramps, safety systems for electrical equipment etc.

Lyons, R. A., Sander, L. V., Weightman, A. L., Patterson, J., Jones, S. A., Lannon, S., et al. (2005). Modification of the home environment for the reduction of injuries [systematic review]. *Cochrane Database of Systemtic Reviews*(1).

Injury in the home is extremely common, accounting for around a third of all injuries. The majority of injuries of children under five and people aged 75 and over occur at home. This study was done to review the evidence for the effect on injuries of modification of the home environment with a primary focus on interventions to reduce physical hazards. The study concluded that there is insufficient evidence to determine the effects of interventions to modify environmental home hazards. Further interventions to reduce hazards in the home should be evaluated by adequately designed randomized controlled trials measuring injury outcomes. Recruitment of large study samples to measure effect may be a major consideration for future trials.

Mark, B. (2002). *Housing and disabled children: The art of the possible*. Bristol: Policy Press.

This report highlights services that address the housing needs of disabled children and their families in a positive way and that have been commended by families themselves. It also highlights the key features of services that the children and their families find most useful. includes a handy checklist for providers to assess the effectiveness of their services. *Housing and disabled children* is an invaluable resource for diverse range of practitioners who work with disabled children and their families and for potential and current service users to find out more about different types of service provision across the UK.

Maternal and Child Health Bureau. (2000). Growth charts training. Retrieved June 6, 2005, from <http://depts.washington.edu/growth/index.htm>

This Web site offers a set of self-directed, interactive training modules for health care professionals using the pediatric growth charts in clinical and public health settings to assess growth

of infants, children, and adolescents. The overall purpose of the modular training is to provide health care professionals in the United States with expertise on using and interpreting the new growth charts. Users can complete any or all of the training modules in the desired sequence and at no cost. Each module includes learning objectives, text, examples to complete, and a glossary of new terms.

Moore, R. C., Goltsman, S. M., & Iacofano, D. S. (Eds.). (1992). *Play for all guidelines: Planning, design and management of outdoor play settings for all children* (2nd. ed.). Berkeley, California: MIG Communications.

Play for all is a comprehensive design resource for integrating children of all abilities in the same play area. Developed by 136 professionals in the fields of child development, recreation therapy, education, law, landscape architecture and park management, these guidelines address the full range of play area issues: safety and risk management, accessibility and integration, maintenance and child development. It includes diagrams, site plan, setting design and management. It is an extremely valuable resource for creating play settings starting from pre-school.

National Center for Boundless Playgrounds. (2005). *Imagine a boundless playground*. Retrieved June 6, 2005, from <http://www.boundlessplaygrounds.org/>

The National Center for Boundless Playgrounds is a non-profit organization that creates playgrounds, where children and adults of all abilities can laugh, play, grow and learn together. Their projects are barrier-free and developmentally advantageous. They have worked throughout the United States and one province in Canada. This website provides a map to explore the projects that have been built or are in development. It includes a very informative virtual tour of a typical boundless playground. Features Boundless Playground training workshops and a related links to resources. The site can be loaded in different font sizes for easy navigation.

Oldman, C., & Beresford, B. (1998). *Homes unfit for children: Housing, disabled*

***children and their families*. Bristol: Policy Press in association with Joseph Rowntree Foundation.**


This report is an account of the findings of an in-depth study of the impact of housing on the lives of disabled children and their families living in Northern and Yorkshire regions in England. All children involved in this project had severe disabilities. *Homes unfit for children* describe parents' perceptions of the impact of housing on their caring and parenting responsibilities and disabled children's experiences of living in their homes. Includes many examples where unsuitable housing is doing harm to the well-being of the whole family. This report identifies areas of policy and practice where improvements are urgently required.

Olsen, R. V., & Hutchings, B. L. (2000). *House for all children: Planning a supportive home environment for children with disabilities*. New Jersey: Center for Architecture and Building Science Research, New Jersey Institute of Technology.

This book provides guidelines for creating safe and supportive home environment for children with physical disabilities from infancy to adolescence. It describes strategies for making a home safe and accessible in a variety of ways. Contains detailed recommendations and resources for home modifications along with practical advice for raising a child with a disability and includes list of resources for support and information.

Olsen, R. V., & Hutchings, B. L. (2000). *House for all children: Planning a supportive home environment for children with disabilities [video recording]*. New Jersey: Center for Architecture and Building Science Research, New Jersey Institute of Technology.

This 32 minute video offers case studies of six families who modified their existing homes, or built new ones, to accommodate the needs of their children with disabilities. The video provides a tour of each home along with advice from the families and tips from experts in the disability field. Each case study illustrates a principle or goal that



parents should consider when trying to create a supportive home for the entire family.

Snell, H. (1983). *The accessible home; renovating for your disabled child.* Toronto, Ontario: IS Five press.

The aim of this book is to assist parents in planning a safe and functional home environment for their disabled child and family. This book is divided into two sections, the first section offers information on selecting a house or apartment. The second section deals with specific areas of the house - the bathroom, kitchen, bedrooms, for example - and how they can be changed to be made barrier-free. It offers relevant information on building codes as well as guides to determine the family's spatial requirements. The author has

answered questions about design requirements and construction in concise, practical and understandable way.

Stuberg, W. (2001). Home accessibility and adaptive equipment in Duchene muscular dystrophy: A case report. *Pediatric Physical Therapy, 13, 169-174.*

This report describes the history of a 26 year old man with Duchene Muscular Dystrophy. It focuses on the issues of accessibility in the home, the use of assistive and adaptive equipment and home modifications that were used to maintain independence.