



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Early Education and Care

Policy	
Policy on Inner Tube Bouncers	Field Operations – Licensed and Funded Child Care Programs
Effective Date: September 15, 2021	

Inner tube bouncers, such as the Monkey Jump, Monkey Jump Junior, and Jungle Jumparoo, are permitted for use by EEC-licensed and funded programs, but their use requires a Safety Plan from providers who use this equipment in their program during care hours.

The Safety Plan must include the following:

1. **Inflation requirements.** How the program will ensure that the inner tube bouncer is properly assembled and inflated, in accordance with the following:
 - a. The inner tube bouncer should only be used when the inner tube is fully inflated.
 - b. Air pressure must be checked weekly and maintained at the manufacturer’s required air pressure.
 - c. Before each use, the inner tube must be visually inspected for proper inflation and/or any signs of visible damage that might cause it to pop during use.
2. **Supervision.** How the program will ensure that children using the inner tube bouncer are actively supervised in accordance with the following:
 - a. Only children for whom use of the equipment is age appropriate, in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions, may be permitted to use the inner tube bouncer. The inner tube bouncer must always be made inaccessible to children younger than the manufacturer’s minimum recommended age, including while it is being used by older children.
 - b. Children are only permitted to use the inner tube bouncer in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions, including the recommended age of children and any ground surfacing requirements established by the manufacturer and by the Department.
 - c. The inner tube is made inaccessible to children during times when active supervision is not possible.

For additional information on ground surfacing and other playground safety requirements:

Department policy on playground safety for center-based child care programs can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/playground-safety-0/download>

Department policy for center-based funded programs can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/playground-safety-for-center-based-funded-programs/download>

Department policy for family child care programs can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/08/oi/family-child-care-playground-safety.pdf>