

# TEN-4 *Bruising Rule*

Kids are kids, and sometimes they play in ways that result in minor cuts, scrapes, and bruises. These minor injuries are often found on bony areas of the body like knees, shins, elbows, and foreheads. However, there are other types of bruises that should be a red flag for possible abuse.

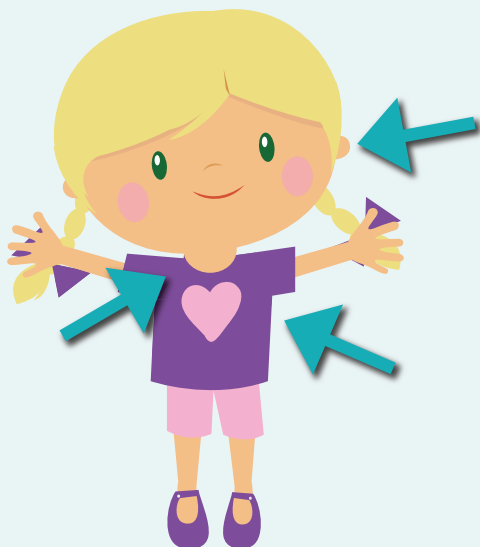
For children **4 years of age or younger**, bruising in these areas are cause for concern and need to be reported:

Torso

Ears

Neck

**4** years or younger



Or any bruising anywhere, if the baby is not yet pulling up or taking steps.

# How To Take Action:

**1. Stay calm and conversational** if you notice bruising on a child.

**2. Document what you see and hear ASAP.**

- Include the color, shape, location, and size of the bruising.
- Document what the child or parent says, along with any questions you ask.
- It is okay to ask non-leading questions, such as:

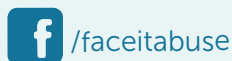
What happened?

Where were you when it happened?

Did an adult see it happen?

- Refrain from asking specific questions or jumping to conclusions. Professionals with appropriate training will handle the investigation.

**3. Make the report.** Contact Child Protective Services by calling  
**1-877-KYSAFE1 or 1-877-597-2331**



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