

Make bed into a pirate ship or airplane with decorations.

Put up mirrors so that patient can see around room.

Move bed frequently to playroom, hallway, or outside.

*Small objects such as marbles and coins, as well as gloves and balloons, are unsafe for young children because of possible aspiration. Latex products also carry the risk of an allergic reaction.

Preparing the Family

The process of patient education involves giving the family information about the child's condition, the regimen that must be followed and why, and other health teaching as indicated. The goal of this education is to enable the family to modify behaviors and adhere to the regimen that has been mutually established (see [Nursing Care Guidelines](#) box).

Nursing Care Guidelines

General Principles of Family Education

- Establish a rapport with the family.
- Avoid using *any* specialized terms or jargon. Clarify all terms with the family.
- When possible, allow family members to decide how they want to be taught (e.g., all at once or over a day or two). This gives the family a chance to incorporate the information at a rate that is comfortable.
- Provide accurate information to the family about the illness.
- Assist family members in identifying obstacles to their ability to comply with the regimen and in identifying the means to overcome those obstacles. Then help family members find ways to incorporate the plan into their daily lives.