Responding to Problems on Trips

Think about how you would respond to problems on trips away from the building. Print the activity. Answer the questions. Talk about your responses with your supervisor, trainer, or coach.

Your school-age summer care program is located within walking distance of a neighborhood. Many of the children live in this neighborhood and their families walk them to and from the program. Jana, a first grader, arrived very upset this morning and has not cheered up. You are walking the children to a nearby bowling alley this morning. As your group is walking, a few children notice a new bird’s nest in the tree. The children are so excited; you and your co-teacher take turns lifting the smaller children to see into the nest. You take a headcount before beginning to walk again, but your count is one child short. Your co-teacher counts, too, and confirms a child is missing. You quickly consult your roster. Jana is no longer with the group. You suspect Jana has started walking towards her house (or where she thinks her house is).

1. How do you respond to Jana’s disappearance?

2. What is your plan for notifying administration and/or authorities that a child is missing?

3. How do you maintain ratio and safely escort the rest of the children back to the program?

4. What is your plan for notifying parents?

5. What can you do in the future to prevent such incidents?

6. What other concerns do you have?
Your group of school-age children is on a field trip to a local nature preserve. Suddenly, Sheridan screams out and begins to cry. When you ask what’s wrong, he says a bee stung him. His face begins to swell.

1. If you know Sheridan has a Health Care Plan, what do you do?

2. If Sheridan does not have a Health Care Plan, what do you do?