There is a safer alternative to traditional pest management.  

http://schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/

School IPM Resources

http://schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/
National Source for School IPM
University of Florida

http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ipm/schoolipm/index.html
School IPM: How-to Manual

What to Know

- Are teachers, staff, students, and parents educated about IPM?
- Does your school district have a School IPM policy in place?
- Does your school district have someone designated as the IPM specialist?
- Are pesticide applications made only by licensed pest managers?
- Is a pest reporting system available to school personnel?
- Are classrooms attractive to pests? Clutter should be minimized and cardboard should not be stored.
- Are school personnel present during each visit by pest management technicians? Pest management technicians should be well educated about IPM and should provide written service reports following each visit.
- Are pesticide applications made only when a pest infestation is confirmed? Avoid routine pesticide applications.

Implementation of IPM results in fewer pests, less pesticide use and a long-term financial saving.  

— Brevard Public Schools
How can I become involved?

1. Contact your local school district for information regarding their pest management policy.
2. Contact your local county extension for information about IPM programs in your area.
3. Form a parent group for IPM in your school.
4. Please visit this website for more School IPM information:

http://schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu

What is IPM?

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) is a common-sense approach to long-term pest suppression or elimination.

1. IPM depends on **inspection, monitoring** and **identification** to determine if and which pests are present.
2. **Sanitation** is IPM.
3. **Exclusion** is IPM.
4. Pesticides are used in the least hazardous manner and applied only when necessary where pests are known to harbor.
5. IPM is also people management. **Communication** is the key.

Why IPM?

Since children spend so much of their day at school, integrated pest management provides an opportunity to create a safer learning environment — to reduce children’s exposure to pesticides as well as eliminate pests.

Children are more sensitive than adults to pesticides. Young children can have greater exposure to pesticides from crawling, exploring, or other hand-to-mouth activities.

— US EPA

What is IPM?

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