

SMART STEPS TO POISON PREVENTION

A Division of Child Safety Solutions, Inc.

Most poisonings involve everyday household items such as cleaning supplies, medicines, cosmetics and personal care items. Help protect your children by reviewing the following guidelines.

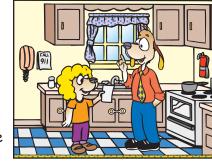
DRUGS, MEDICINES AND VITAMINS

- Keep medicines in their original child resistant bottles and containers locked up and out of reach of children.
- Don't call medicine candy.
 Medicines and candy may look alike and children cannot tell the difference.



- Never give medicine in the dark. Turn on a light when you give medicine at night to be sure you have the correct amount of the right medicine.
- Vitamins are medicine. Vitamins with iron can be poisonous. Keep them locked up and out of reach of children.
- Avoid taking medicine in front of children because they often imitate adults.
- Be aware of any medicines that visitors may bring into your home. A child's curiosity may lead him to investigate visitor's purses, suitcases, pillboxes, etc.
- Discard old medicines safely and responsibly. Do not pour them down the drain or in the toilet, as they may contaminate the water supply. Rinse empty containers and dispose of them properly.
 - HOUSEHOLD AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS
- Store all poisonous household and chemical products locked up, away from food and out of sight of children. Return products to safe storage immediately after use.
- Store all products in their original containers.
 Do not use food containers such as milk jugs, soda bottles, cups or jars to store household and chemical products. Children may associate certain containers with food and drink.

- Never mix household products together as poisonous gasses may result.
- Turn on the fan and open windows when using chemical products such as household cleaners.
- Most poisonings occur when the product is in use. If you are using a product and need to answer the phone or doorbell, take the child or product with you.
- Discard old or outdated household chemical products.
- Pesticides can be absorbed through the skin and can be extremely toxic.
 Remove children and their toys from areas where pesticides will be applied, and



- keep them away until those areas are dry or as recommended on product labels.
- Always read pesticide labels first and follow directions explicitly. Never leave pesticides unattended while using them.
- Lamp oil is very toxic. Do not put decorative lamps and candles that contain lamp oil where children can reach them.

AROUND THE HOME

 Carbon monoxide produced by burning fossil fuels such as gasoline, kerosene, propane, natural gas and wood is an odorless, colorless gas often called the "silent killer." Water heaters, stoves, space heaters and other

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- appliances that use natural fuel can release carbon monoxide. Check these appliances often for cracks and be sure ventilation ducts travel to the exterior of your home.
- Do not leave automobiles running in an attached garage. Carbon monoxide is emitted from automobiles and can enter your home through an attached garage.
- Keep poisonous plants out of reach of children and pets. If you are uncertain whether a plant is poisonous, take a sample to a local nursery for identification.
- Teach children not to eat mushrooms, leaves and berries that grow in the yard. Some of these may be poisonous.
- Keep children away from plants that have recently been sprayed with weed killer, bug killer or fertilizer.

BE PREPARED

- Keep Poison Control Center, physician and hospital phone numbers readily available. Keep these numbers on or near every home telephone and save them on your cell phone.
- Call 1-800-222-1222 for the Poison Control Center. This is a national toll free number that works from anyplace in the United States, seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. It will connect you to a poison control center that will help you.

- Keep syrup of ipecac on hand. Call your local poison control center, physician or hospital before use. Make sure the babysitter knows where you store your Ipecac Syrup.
- Have your local poison control center send you a list of poisonous and non-poisonous plants.
- Install battery operated carbon monoxide alarms throughout your home; at least one on each level, in each bedroom and above every fuel-burning appliance. Check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. If the detector sounds, leave your home immediately and call 911.

IF A POISONING OCCURS

- Remain Calm
- Call 911 if the victim has collapsed or is not breathing



 If the victim is awake and alert, dial the poison control



number 1-800-222-1222. Try to have this information ready: the victim's age and weight, the container or bottle of the poison, the time of poison exposure and the address

where poisoning occurred.

Stay on the phone and follow the instructions from the emergency operator or poison control center.

For more information, contact the I'm Safe! Network, www.imsafe.com.

