

Prevent Poisoning

There are many common household products that are poisonous. Such products, like medicines, paint, cleaning supplies and insecticides, are found in ordinary homes. These poisons are particularly dangerous for families with young children. Children are naturally curious and eager to explore. They will spill and taste anything they can find.



copy you. And never call medicine “candy”. Throw out old medications.

Put this emergency phone number by your telephone for Poison Control, **1-800-222-1222**. If you think your child has been poisoned, call them before doing anything. Tell the person who answers that you don’t speak English (and the language you do speak) and they will get an interpreter on the line. You can also call 911. It’s a good idea to keep your doctor’s number by the phone too. Be prepared to answer these questions as best you can

- What was taken?
- How much was taken?
- When was it taken?
- How is the child acting and how does the child look?

Here are some examples of measures you can take to make your home safe for your children:

- Keep poisons out of reach of small children!
- Keep all medicines, paint and paint thinner, detergents and cleaning supplies, insecticides and bug repellent, moth balls and ant traps, kerosene, propane and charcoal fluid (as well as charcoal) and plants out of reach of small children.
- Install safety latches on doors and cabinets.
- Always keep products in the containers they came in.
- Buy products with childproof safety caps.
- Dispose of old batteries promptly.
- Get rid of products you aren’t going to use.
- And again, most importantly, keep all poisons out of reach of children.

Remember, medicines can cause harm if taken the wrong way, even non prescription or over-the-counter medicines. So: give your children only medicines that have been prescribed for them or over-the-counter medicines that are made for children. Read the label and give the amount listed for your child’s age and weight. Don’t guess about the amount, use a measuring spoon or cup. Also, don’t take medicine in front of children because they will



Again, the number for Poison Control is **1-800-222-1222**. You can call them with any question or in an emergency.

**Prevent poisoning –
make your house a safer place
for young children.**

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