

Safe Kids New London County

E-Newsletter contains information on new recalls, safety announcements, and events to help ensure your little ones safety all year long!

Choking, Suffocation and Strangulation Prevention

Like the Growing little kids they are they can become very curious about the things around them and will touch, taste and smell just about anything. Keep your child safe from things that could choke, suffocate and strangle them by making your home and play areas safe and hazards free.

Choking:

- Keep small objects such as buttons, beads, marbles, coins and tacks out of reach (and sight).
- Don't let children under age 3 eat small, round or hard foods, including small pieces of hot dogs, hard candy, nuts, grapes and popcorn.
- Buy only age-appropriate toys for your toddler. Use a small parts tester (or a toilet paper roll) to determine whether toys and objects in your home may present a choking hazard to young children.

Suffocation:

- Don't allow toddlers to sleep on couches, chairs, regular beds or other soft surfaces.
- Never allow young children to play in poorly ventilated spaces such as laundry machines, car trunks and toy chests.

Strangulation:

- Tie up all window blind and drapery cords out of reach.
- Avoid dressing children in necklaces, purses, scarves, helmets or clothing with drawstrings.

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Top Tips: Fire Safety

In the bedroom:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and in every sleeping area.
- Keep furniture and other heavy objects out of the way of doors and windows.

In the kitchen:

- Lock up matches and lighters out of sight and reach.
- Never leave a hot stove unattended.

Around the house:

- Install and test smoke alarms.
- Practice an escape plan with your child.
- Keep all portable heaters out of children's reach and at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn.
- Avoid plugging several appliance cords into the same electrical socket.

Safety Experts now recommend that children remain rear facing until the age of two! Real crash data tells us that they are 5 times safer in the rear facing position!!!!!!

Fall Prevention Guide

Young children are still developing mobility and coordination and can be prone to injuries caused by falls. Head injuries are associated with most deaths and severe injuries resulting from falls. Make sure the area around little kids is safe to toddle, tippy toe and topple. Always actively supervise your little kid as they explore the world around them.

More than 80 percent of fall-related injuries to children 4 years and under occur in the home. For children ages 5 to 14 years, nearly half of fall-related injuries occur in the home; 23 percent occur at school. The majority of falls occur at noon and early evening, the most common playtime for children.

There are many tools that parents can use to help to keep their toddlers safe from injuries such as stair gates, wall anchors, and window guards.



Safe Kids recommends these to prevent falls with your little one:

Furniture:

- Do not place toys or items that attract children on top of furniture.
- Place furniture away from windows, and secure it to the wall with anchor straps.

Stairs:

- Install safety gates at the top and the bottom of staircases.
- Actively supervise toddlers on stairs. Hold their hands when climbing up and down stairs.
- Make sure stairs are clear of toys and other objects.

Windows:

- Install safety guards on windows. Screens are meant to keep bugs out, not children in.
- Keep windows locked when they're closed.

Did you know: Each year, approximately 103 children die from fall-related injuries.

Recalls

While all recalls are important, Safe Kids urges you to pay particular attention to the ones in **red**, as they are associated with one or more child deaths.

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[7/1/2011 – Mini Stars Building Sets Recalled by Edushape Due to Choking Hazard](#)

[7/20/2011 – Target Recalls Children's Task Lamps Due to Laceration and Fire Hazards](#)

[7/21/2011 – Ski Helmets Recalled by Swix Sport USA due to Head Injury Hazard](#)

[7/27/2011 – Prime-Line Products Recalls Child Bathtub Non-Slip Pads Due To Fall Hazard](#)

[7/28/2011 – Fisher-Price Recalls to Repair Little People Builders' Load 'n Go Wagons due to Laceration Hazard](#)

[7/28/2011 – Strollers Recalled by phil&teds USA Due to Risk of Injury from Brake Failure](#)

[7/29/2011 – Bravo Sports Recalls Disney-Branded Pogo Sticks Due to Fall and Laceration Hazards](#)



Disney/Pixar Toy Story
Cruising Cool Pogo Stick



Did you know children in the state of Connecticut are required by state law to wear a bike helmet? Please, try to set a good example by requiring everyone to wear a brain bucket!