

700 Children's Drive Columbus, Ohio 43205-2696 nationwidechildrens.org

POISONINGS AND POISON PREVENTION

IF YOU THINK SOMEONE IS POISONED

- Call the Poison Center first!
 - If the person collapsed or stopped breathing, call 911 or your local emergency number RIGHT AWAY!
- Medical help is available 24 hours every day.
- Calls are confidential and free to the public.
- Calls are handled by specially trained pharmacists and nurses.
- Bring the person and the poison to the phone.



1-800-222-1222

Nationwide Poison Emergency Hotline

WHY YOUNG CHILDREN GET INTO THINGS

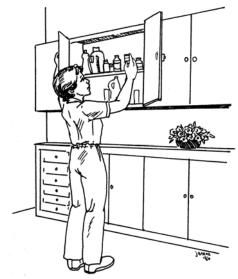
Children are constantly changing and growing. They are naturally curious so they are often "getting into things." They learn by doing what they see others do. When they see someone using a household product, smoking cigarettes, taking medicine, or drinking alcohol, they copy what they see. Products considered safe from a reach of a 10-month-old child may become easy to reach for him or her in just a few months later. Make sure that relatives, friends, and baby sitters also poison-proof their homes.

HOW TO "Be Poison Smart!®"

Look for "pretty poisons" – products that, through the eyes of a child, look like something good to eat or drink but can be harmful if put in the mouth, or get on the skin or into the eyes. Every time you take something home, ask yourself:

- Is this product a "pretty poison"?
- Is it medicine or vitamins?
- Does it have alcohol in it?
- Does it contain gasoline, insecticides or pesticides?

If the answer is "yes" to any of the above questions, store the product **out of sight and out of reach!**



Picture 2 Store products out of sight and out of reach.

HOW TO "Be Poison Smart!®" (continued)

Storing products:

Use low shelves to store harmless items and leave space for poisons on high shelves.

Containers:

Always use products with *child-resistant* caps. Remember – the *caps aren't childproof*. Keep products in their original, labeled containers. Read the entire label before using.

Medicines:

Never call medicine "candy." Don't take medicine in front of a child. *Never take or give medicine* in the dark.

Plants:

Know the names of all your plants, both indoors and out. To find out the plant names, take a branch or leaf to your local plant store. Keep poisonous plants out of children's reach.

HOW TO POISON-PROOF YOUR HOME

Look for "pretty poisons" in every room in your home. Look through cabinets, cupboards, and drawers. Remove and store all poisonous products on high shelves or in locked cupboards. Use this guide to poison-proof your home:

