

How can I prevent injury to my child from stumbling over toys?

There is a very simple answer to this question. Teach your children to put their toys away after play. This will reduce the chance of a child hurting him or herself or breaking his or her toys, and is a good habit to learn at a young age.

Are there any precautions for use of a baby pacifier?

Yes. If a pacifier looks worn, throw it away. Never hang a pacifier around a baby's neck. The string or cord can get tangled around the neck and choke or strangle the baby.

SAFE-T-SAURUSSM – Keeping Kids Safe

For more than ten years, SAFE-T-SAURUS has been helping Nationwide Children's Hospital keep children and families safe.

Educational safety information is provided through brochures, activity books, videos and personal appearances. Programs are available on a wide variety of safety topics.

And now you can visit SAFE-T-SAURUS on the Web. Nationwide Children's complete library of SAFE-T-SAURUS topics is available at www.nationwidechildrens.org. Safety items for your children and home can be purchased through Safe-T's online safety store also found on the Nationwide Children's Web site.



Sign Up For Health e-Hints

Nationwide Children's Hospital's Health e-Hints is a free email-based program designed to provide you with important age-appropriate child health information conveniently delivered right to your desktop.

Sign up today for this free service at www.nationwidechildrens.org/healthhints.

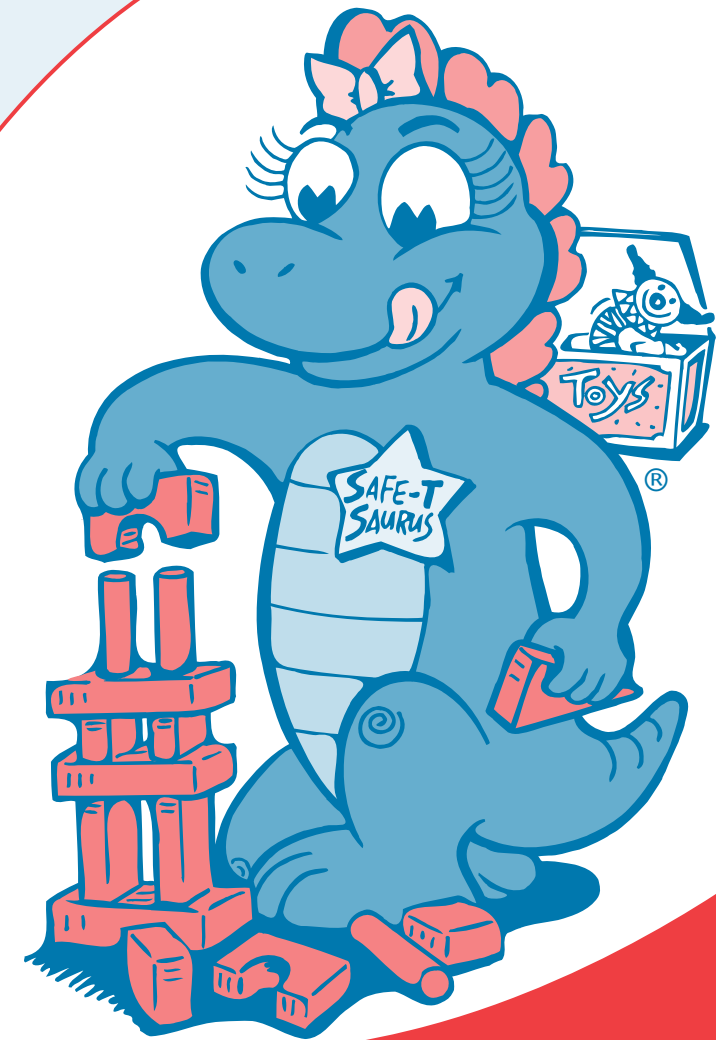


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Toy Safety



Parents want the best for their children. They want them to be healthy, happy and to develop normally and safely in all ways... from the first feedings to the first steps, and well beyond.

The questions and answers in this brochure are designed to help you, as a parent, make healthy and safe choices for your children.



How should I choose safe toys for my young child?

Be a label reader. Always check toys and toy packages for warning labels. Be sure the toy is safe for the age of the child. Look for age suggestions on the package, such as "not recommended for children under 3." Keep in mind the child's interests and skill level. Safety stores offer a choke tube which serves as a great guide in selecting toy size and only costs about \$1.



What are some toys to avoid buying?

- Toys made with breakable plastics and glass.
- Toys with cords, strings and ribbons.
- Toys with small parts (these can get stuck in ears, nose or throat).
- Latex balloons. They can burst and get stuck in the throat. (Mylar balloons are fine.)
- Toys with points and sharp edges.
- Electrical toys for children under age 8.
- Toys with strings, gears or hinged parts that could pinch tiny fingers.

Should I worry about toxic materials used on children's toys?

It is important to make sure toys are painted with non-lead based and/or non-toxic finishes (safety rules began in 1978). Read the labels and look for toys labeled non-toxic. If in doubt, contact the Central Ohio Poison Control Center at 800-222-1222.

