

POISON PREVENTION

March 2007

Parenting *Rules!*

Keep your kids safe from accidental poisoning

National Poison Prevention Week, which is in its 46th year, will be held March 18-24th. Since its start in 1961 the National Poison Control Center has reported a big drop in accidental poisoning cases, however, dozens of children are still hurt each year despite these promising reports.



Poisoning Dangers in Your Home



- cleaning products
- nail polish, make-up, perfume
- glue, batteries, mothballs
- mouthwash, vitamins, medications

Ways children are exposed to poisons:

- eating or drinking
- through the skin
- breathing in toxic fumes
- through the eyes

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How Can You Keep Your Children Safe?

- Keep all cosmetics out of reach
- Install child-proof locks on cabinets
- Do not allow your children to feed themselves vitamins
- Never use strong chemicals in an enclosed area
- Keep chemicals capped and out of reach
- Ask the pharmacist for child-resistant caps for medications
- Keep the Poison Control phone number handy



What to do in the event of accidental poisoning:

- Find out what substance has caused the poisoning
- Call 911 if your child can't breathe
- Follow the first aid instructions on the label
- If the substance has gotten in the eyes, gently flush with water for 15 minutes
- Rinse with water if a toxic substance gets on the skin
- In case of inhaling poisonous gases, take the child out into fresh air

Always seek medical attention when you believe your child as been exposed to dangerous chemicals or substances.

Call the Poison Control Center at 1-800-222- 1222

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The Poison Control information below has been provided for you to cut out and post in a visible place.

The Poison Control Center

1-800-222-1222

If you can, have this information ready when you call:

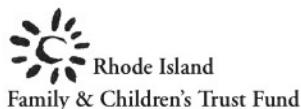
- your name, and zip code
- the victim's age and weight
- the time the poisoning took place
- any medicines the victim is taking
- the name of the substance or poison
- current health problems of the victim
- symptoms the victim has related to the poisoning



Don't wait, call immediately!

About Parenting Rules! Enews

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Some of these tips were adapted from materials produced by The U.S. Consumer Safety Commission and The National Capital Poison Center. Please share these tips with families in your programs. Thank you!