

Window Safety

May 2011

Parenting *Rules!*

Open Windows....

Kids can't fly, keep them safe!

Recently, in Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts, several children have been injured or killed from a fall out a window. Every year thousands of children across the country are killed or seriously hurt from such falls.

These kinds of accidents increase in the warmer weather when parents open windows to let in fresh air. However, these injuries are avoidable with the proper precautions and supervision.

Keeping your kids safe from a window fall is easy!

Just follow these safety measures:

- Open windows from the top only
- Do not rely on screens to keep your child from falling out the window, they are not strong enough to stop a fall
- Install window guards that you can purchase at your local hardware store
- Keep furniture away from windows so kids won't have something to climb on
- **Teach your child to stay away from the windows**



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Window Coverings...



Your window coverings could be just as dangerous as an open window. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission say that about a dozen infants and young children die every year from accidentally strangling in window cords.

The Window Covering Safety Council recommends you only use cordless window products in your children's bedrooms and replace all window coverings in the home that were made before 2001.

Remember to always follow these basic window-cord safety rules:

- Install cordless window coverings in children's bedrooms or other windows that are accessible to children
- Keep window blind cords out of reach of children, tie them up out of reach
- Move furniture and toys away from the windows
- Lock cords into position when they are lowered
- Permanently anchor continuous-loop cords to the wall
- Replace older dangerous window coverings
- Never allow your child to play with the window blind cords

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Power Window Dangers....

Many parents aren't aware of the danger of power car windows. Reports show that thousands of children under age 14 are injured each year and at least 5 of those children die when they become trapped in a closing power window.

Power car windows close at a force of 50-80 pounds of pressure, which is more than enough to strangle or crush a child's head or neck. Children are involved in these accidents when they accidentally step on or press the power window button.



Parents need to be aware of and focused on the safety of their children at all times, even while in the car.

Here are some ways to keep your kids safe while in or around the car:

- Never leave your child unsupervised in the car
- Always keep your child in the proper child restraint for his/her size and age
- Never allow your child to play in the car alone
- Always keep your car locked when it is in the driveway
- Never leave your car keys where your child can get at them

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Resources for Parents...

The National Safety Council

1211 Spring Lake Dr., Itasca, IL 60143
(630) 285-2128 www.nsc.org

Window Covering Safety Council

355 Lexington Avenue Suite 1500, New York, NY 10017
212-297-2100 www.windowcoverings.org

KidsAndCars.org

2913 West 113th Street, Leawood, KS 66211
913-327-0041 www.kidsandcars.org

Home Safety Council – Washington, DC

1250 Eye Street, NW Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005
336-957-9947 www.homesafetycouncil.org

Safe Kids Worldwide

1301 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004
202-226-0600 www.safekids.org

ABOUT PARENTING RULES! E-NEWS...



Prevent Child Abuse
Rhode Island

Rhode Island
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Please share this information with the families in your programs. Thank you!