

**SAFETY SUGGESTIONS FOR PLAYTIME**

1. See that a child plays only in the areas where his parents want him to play.
2. When you cannot hold or watch a small baby, keep him in his crib or a playpen, and when outdoors, stay within sight and sound of the playpen. Never leave a young child alone. His safety depends on you. Keep your mind on him—not on the telephone, or homework, or your other business.
3. Use a seat belt on the child if he is riding in a baby carriage or stroller.
4. If you are playing with a baby on the bed or sofa when the phone or doorbell rings, take him with you or put him in his crib or playpen. He can have a bad fall if he is left alone in such places. Never leave a child unattended in any place from which he or she could have a serious fall.
5. Keep your eye on toddlers at all times.
6. Keep them from:
  - fireplaces
  - stairways
  - high places
  - medicines and cleaning supplies
  - appliances, radiators, electrical outlets (inexpensive plastic plugs are available at hardware stores that can be inserted into open outlets)
  - porches and windowsills
  - climbing on tables, stands, TV

And don't let a toddler or creeper pull on a lamp, table, tablecloth, or anything else that might fall on him.

7. Keep the children out of the street at all times. If you are going for a walk and must cross a street, do so only at intersections and only when traffic is stopped, never from behind a car.
8. Make sure the play area is free of broken glass, nails, garden tools, and small objects that a child could swallow or hurt himself with.
9. Pay attention to all of the children when there are more than one.
10. Keep the outside doors locked. Don't open the door unless you know the person calling, or unless you have a chain lock for opening it part way.
11. Never let a child play near a stove where you are preparing hot food.
12. Never let children of any age crawl into a refrigerator, freezer, or clothes dryer.

13. Do not let a child play with matches or fluid-filled lighters.
14. Don't allow children to make a fire, even in a fireplace.
15. Do not let a child play with sharp-pointed objects (scissors, knives, pencils, etc.).
16. Choose things for the child to play with that have smooth surfaces and round corners.
17. Do not let children chew on things that have painted surfaces.
18. Do not let a child chew on cigarette or cigar butts.
19. Do not let a child near a strange dog or animal.
20. Never let a child play with air rifles, bows and arrows, or guns (this must be done only when supervised by his parents).
21. Never let a child run with anything that will hurt him if he falls on it.
22. Keep small children from climbing in trees or on fences and tables.
23. Before pushing a child in a swing, make sure that he is secure and holding on tightly.
24. Never let a child play with plastic bags.
25. Be sure that all household chemicals are out of the reach of children. This includes detergents, cleaning products and cosmetics, as well as commonly recognized hazards such as medicines, pest killers, and liquid fuel. Keep these products in their original containers. Do not store them in cups, bowls, or bottles which children associate with eating and drinking.
26. Do not let children play with or eat poisonous household plants, or those that may be in the yard outside. Check with parents or other competent authority.

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