

CHILDREN ACT FAST ... SO DO POISONS



Young children will eat and drink almost anything, often without respect to taste, color or consistency. Medicines and household products, plants, and old lead paint are common sources of poisoning. Fortunately, careful planning can prevent most accidents from happening.

- ❑ Keep household products and medicines in a locked cabinet or closet. Use special child safety latches on any cabinets without locks. Return all medicines and household products to their proper place when you are through with them, even if you will be using them again shortly - children move quickly.
- ❑ Keep all products properly labeled. Read labels before using, even if you are familiar with the directions. Keep items in their original containers (don't use an old soda bottle or cup for storage).
- ❑ If children attend daycare, homecare or school and are taking medication, ask the pharmacist for a spare, labeled bottle with the medicine's name and dosage instructions.
- ❑ Turn on the light when giving or taking medicine. Many bottles and containers look similar and are easily confused in the dark.



- ❑ Lead poisoning can occur whenever a child has access to older lead based paint. Remove all loose pieces of paint and replace paint with a lead free paint.
- ❑ Some houseplants, garden and wild plants are poisonous if ingested. Supervise young children since many plants look like they are good to eat: they smell sweet and are brightly colored.



Get accurate information from a live health expert 24 hours/7days a week at the **POISON HOTLINE:**

- Call **(800) 222-1222** to **SPEAK** with a health expert
- Visit **www.njpies.org** for **LIVE CHAT** online
- Get **LIVE TEXT** answers at **8882221222@njpies.org**

1. Explain your situation or symptoms. Call the Poison Hotline **before** you induce vomiting.
2. Have the name of the product and container ready or the name of the suspected source of exposure. It is helpful to know the name, quantity and how long ago the substance was ingested.
3. Don't rely on information from other sites found from a general search on the Internet.

WEST WINDSOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Serving the Communities of

West Windsor ■ Hightstown ■ Robbinsville