

## PROTECT CHILDREN FROM POISONING

Identify potential poisons in and around the home (e.g., medications, cleaning products, pesticides, products that contain alcohol, certain plants, cosmetics, soaps, detergents, e-cigarettes). Talk with children about what is a poison and what is not a poison.

Drugs and medications are the leading cause of unintentional poisoning. Store all poisons and medications out of sight and reach of children. If possible, keep medications in a locked box. ***Remember, many children can open “child resistant” containers. Potential poisons should always be kept out of sight and out of reach of children.***

Take medications out of the sight of children. Children often copy the actions of the adults in their lives. Never refer to medicine as “candy” because it can easily confuse young children.

Keep visitors’ bags and coats out of sight and out of reach of children. Some people carry medications and other potential poisons with them.

Teach older children to recognize hazard symbols and what they mean. Always read the label before using any product to make sure it is being used correctly. Avoid using potentially poisonous cleaning products when children are in the room. ***Mixing different cleaning products can make a poisonous gas.***

Always keep products in their original packaging or make sure they are properly labelled. This will allow you to quickly identify the product and its ingredients if a child gets into it.

Do not re-use chemical containers to store other materials. Follow directions on containers for proper disposal. Do not let children play with chemical containers. ***Whenever possible, buy household products that come fitted with child-resistant caps.***

Install carbon monoxide detectors on all levels of your home and outside of sleeping areas. Test monthly and replace batteries every six months.

Keep Saskatchewan’s Poison Control Centre phone number **1-866-454-1212** stored in your contacts and beside any telephones in the home.

***COVID-19 Poison Prevention Tip:*** Supervise young children when using hand sanitizer.

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***Supervision of children, especially young children, is an important way to prevent unintentional poisoning. It can be difficult to keep children in view at all times. This is why it is important that potential poisons are always kept out of sight and reach of children.***