



HOME SAFETY TIPS

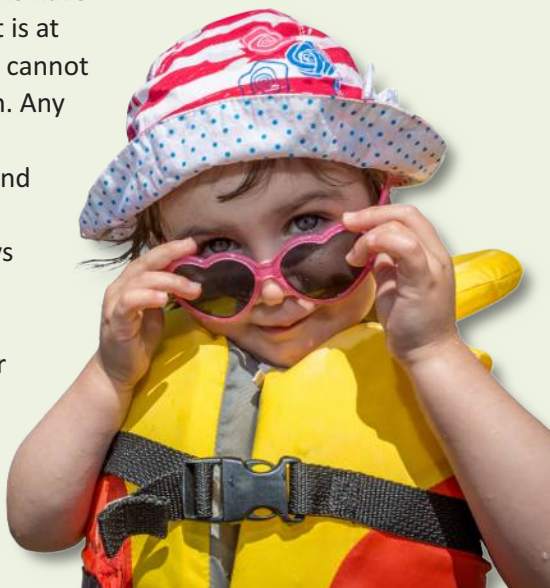
1 to 4 Years

In or Near Water

Children are attracted to water but are not capable of understanding the dangers associated with it.

Your child can drown silently and quickly in less than 2.5 cm (1 inch) of water.

- Always keep children within arm's reach of an adult (not an older child) when in or near water. This includes bathtubs, paddling pools, or beaches.
- Be aware of standing water in your home and backyard such as pet dishes and ponds.
- Install a locking device on your toilet or a lock on the outside of your bathroom door that is out of reach of your child.
- If you can access the hot water heater, turn it down to 49°C (120°F) to lower the risk of burns.
- Ensure all backyard pools have fencing on all sides that is at least four feet high and cannot be accessed by children. Any gate to the pool area should be self-closing and self-latching.
- Your child should always wear a properly fitted personal floatation device (PFD) when in or near bodies of water such as swimming pools, hot tubs, and rivers.



Play Time

- Ensure that toys are safe for your child's age (e.g., follow manufacturer's age recommendations, and avoid toys with small, detachable pieces). If you have children of different ages, separate their toys to ensure younger children do not play with toys that have small parts.
- Check that all toys and household products using button batteries have screws to secure the battery compartment or cover the compartment with strong tape. Swallowing button batteries is a choking hazard and can severely burn the esophagus (throat), stomach, and intestines.
- Stay within arm's reach of children on play equipment such as swings, raised platforms, and slides. Encourage safe play habits such as taking turns, going feet first down the slide, and using handrails.
- Always remove your child's scarf and helmet before using playground equipment. To prevent strangling, remove drawstrings and cords from your child's clothing. These items can catch on equipment and strangle your child.



Safe Environments for Safer Play

- Keep stairs free from clutter and make sure stairs have a secure handrail. Teach your child how to go up and down stairs safely, and stay close to them when they are on the stairs.
- Use wall-mounted safety gates at the top and bottom of stairs in your home. A pressure-mounted safety gate may release if your child pushes or falls against it. Remove safety gates from stairs when your child is two years of age to prevent children from climbing the gate.
- Securely attach heavy furniture to the wall using angle braces, anchors, or safety straps. This will reduce the chances of the furniture falling on your child if they try to climb or walk on them.
- Put safety covers on all electrical outlets. Keep electrical cords out of reach or behind furniture. Keep lighters, matches, and candles out of reach of children.



In the Kitchen

Your child wants to do the things you do and may want to help you in the kitchen. You can include your child in daily tasks in safe and fun ways.

- Keep knives out of reach of your child. Put them away when you are not using them.
- Use the back burners of the stove when possible. Consider buying a latch for your oven door.
- Keep pot and pan handles turned towards the centre of the stove. This will prevent children from pulling hot pans onto themselves.
- Keep cords from kitchen appliances out of reach of your child. Unplug appliances when you are not using them.

Meal Time

Children less than three years of age are at a higher risk of choking on food. Always mash, cut, chop, or grate foods for your child and avoid foods such as popcorn, nuts, and gum. Always supervise your child while they eat and do not allow them to run, jump, or play while eating.

Poisoning

Keep all medication and vitamins, cleaning products, cosmetics, tobacco, cannabis products, vaping liquids, and other potential poisons out of sight and out of reach of your child, preferably in a locked cupboard.

Never refer to medication or vitamins as candy. When possible, buy medications in child-resistant containers.



Travelling with Your Child

In Your Vehicle

It is best for a child to continue using a rear-facing seat until they are either too tall or heavy according to their car seat's instructions. In this type of car seat, your child will be facing the back of the car.

Use a forward-facing seat once your child outgrows their rear-facing seat.

Use a car seat for every ride. Always follow the instructions in your car seat and vehicle manuals. For help installing your car seat, you can find a local car seat technician by visiting www.sgi.sk.ca/technicians.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

Make sure your child always wears a properly fitted bicycle helmet when biking, using a scooter, or as a passenger in a bicycle trailer. Do not use blankets, loose fitting clothing, or scarves that can get caught in spokes, gears, or pedals.

Begin teaching children the rules of the road when you're out walking and riding together.



Be Prepared

- Take CPR and first aid so that you know what to do in the event of an emergency.
- Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors outside every sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement. Test smoke alarms and CO detectors monthly, and set reminders to replace the batteries every six months.
- Plan and practice escape routes from your home in case of a fire or other emergency.



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