

CHILDREN'S SAFETY



UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA
CENTER OF CHILD AND FAMILY RESEARCH
CENDIF-UNIMET

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Children are prone to have accidents due to their desire to explore. However, there are ways to prevent accidents and protect the child's life.

Accidents are the primary cause of death in childhood.

Most accidents occur inside the house, some common accidents are:

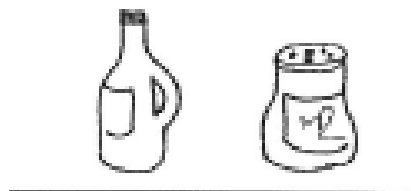
- ❖ BURNS: due to boiling water, hot food, electronics, vapor or acid.
- ❖ BLEEDING CUTS AND WOUNDS: due to broken glass, knives, cans, etc.



- ❖ ASPHYXIA: choking because of swallowing of objects like coins, buttons, seeds, etc.



- ❖ POISONING: for consuming or drinking toxic products or medications, cleaning products, etc.



- ❖ FALLS OR BUMPS: by climbing in furniture or high places.



Other accidents occur in the street or outdoors, such as:

- ❖ Falls, cuts or burns



- ❖ Animal bites or insect stings.

- ❖ Drowning.



Many accidents can be prevented and it is the parents' responsibility to protect the child from hurting himself.



Recommendations for preventing accidents inside the house

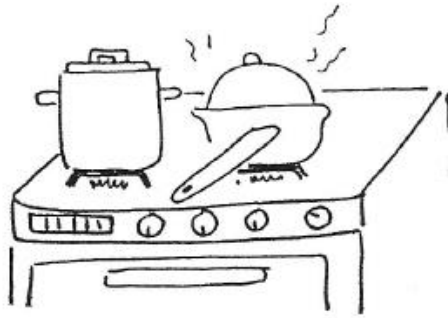
- When the mother is cooking the child should be far from the kitchen.
- Hot meals and beverages should be out of children's reach.



- If the oven is hot children should not be near this area, so they cannot put their hands on it.
- To store cleaning products and medicines in a safe place where the child will not reach to it.

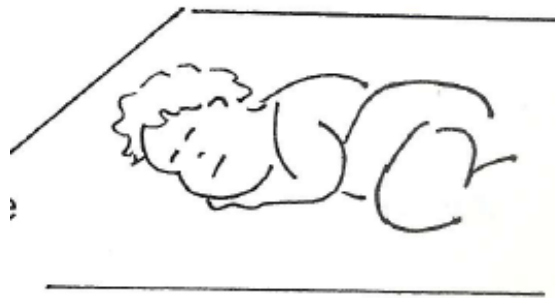


- To prevent the handles of the pan from standing out of the stove so they cannot



fall.

- The child does not need to sleep with a pillow until after the age of 2. Hence, avoid placing pillows inside the crib because he/she may undergo



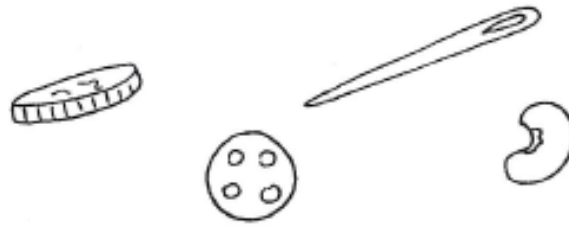
asphyxiation.

- The toys inside the crib should not have a long string, since it may roll around the child's neck.



<p>SAFETY MEASURES MUST BE TAKEN IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO ENJOY IN A HOME WITHOUT RISKS.</p>

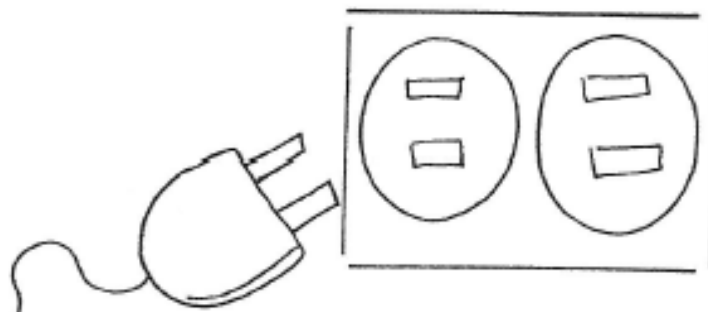
- Avoid leaving around buttons, coins, needles, bottle caps, seeds, grains, small stones, etc. In places where it is easy for children to reach them.



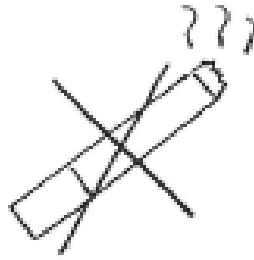
- The mother/father or whoever is in charge of taking care of the child must be able to acknowledge his or her own limitations regarding the caring or supervision of the child. Some of these limitations are tiredness and sickness, etc. When necessary it is advised to ask for help.
- The child should NEVER be left alone in a bathtub, not even if the child is in a high place.



- To unplug electronics when they are being unused. Sockets should be covered with tape or with a plug socket safety cover.



- Avoid smoking when the child is around and place the ashtray out of child's reach.



- When the child requires a certain medicine, it is mandatory to check the expiration date of the medicine. Equally, it should be administered where the light is good so there is no mistake with the doses.
- Do not place dangerous products (paraffin, alcohol, bleach) in food or beverage containers. The child may consume it by mistake.



- When holding the child consumption of hot food or beverages is not advised.



- The children's toys should be in an accessible reach for them, so they can grab them without climbing.



With every new ability that the child develops, he will take risks, so it is important to get ahead of them and avoid them.

- It is advisable not to leave children alone with a younger sibling or with another young kid; he or she may drop the child, give them a sharp object or get distracted and lose them from sight.



- When driving, avoid children from sticking their heads or arms out of the window.



- Bathroom doors must be kept locked, in order to avoid children from playing with the toilette's water or get their hands on the trash.
- If the place where the child stands has stairs or balconies, it is advisable to find a way to close them and avoid accidents. Children do not distinguish danger from safety.



- If the child uses a pacifier, avoid hanging it from the neck, since while playing or sleeping he/she may choke.



Whenever the child is in front of new experiences; a recommend thought is:

THIS IS SAFE FOR HIM

If there is a positive answer, let the children explore calmly so they may develop their potential.



If there is a negative answer, try to make this new experience somewhere else safer or change some conditions so the child develops in a safe environment.



SIMPLE MEASURES IN CASE OF MINOR ACCIDENTS

In case of bleeding cuts and wounds

With clean hands wash the wound with soap and boiled water, or salted water. Clean the dirt deeply and nicely so the wound does not get infected. If the wound is minor no bandage will be necessary, with fresh air it will heal faster. If the wound is profound then you should go to the hospital.

In case of burning:

Place the burned area in clean and cool water for 10 minutes. Burn blisters should not be popped, nor the fabric adhered to the skin where the burn is should be removed. It is not advisable to place oils or fat, nor toothpaste over the burned area.

In case of falling:

If the child falls of a tree or he/she is heavily wounded by a car accident, you should not move the child, it is recommended to cover the child with a blanket to maintain body temperature, look for help immediately.



In case of snake bite:

Do not move the part that has been bitten.
Do not treat the bite by your own hands. This requires help from a doctor or nurse.

In case of poisoning:

First, it is necessary to identify what the child ingested, then immediately get in contact with a doctor.



**CHILDREN'S SAFETY GIVES THEM THE APPROPRIATE PLACE FOR THEIR
INTELLECTUAL, PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT.**

The Center of Child and Family Research (CENDIF) was created in 1981. Its main goal is to develop and disseminate alternative practices to expand and improve their programs and services in the areas of education, health and development of the poorest sectors of society.

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