

National Poison Prevention Week 2023 TOOLKIT FOR PARTNERS



National Poisoning Prevention Week: An Overview

National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) was established by congress in 1961. This year, NPPW is March 19-25, 2023. The week is dedicated to raising awareness about poisoning prevention and the Poison Help Hotline (1-800-222-1222). This number works everywhere in the U.S. and its territories. Calls are answered by trained healthcare professionals. This is a free and confidential service.

Poison Centers save lives. But we save money, too. On average, more than 70% of callers are guided to treat their poisoning problem right where they are, instead of making a costly trip to a healthcare facility.

THANK YOU for sharing these materials and messages with your friends, family, colleagues, and your community!

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SOCIAL MEDIA & GRAPHICS

Sharing our posts, images, and messages on your own social media platforms is one of the simplest--yet most effective--ways to help.

- Sample messages and daily themes.
- Profile, main square, and banner images.
- Available in BOTH English and Spanish.



[sample image]





Even easier: Follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. Then share or re-tweet our NPPW posts.

Ready-to-Print (or -Post) Handouts

The Blue Ridge Poison Center has an online library of <u>flyers</u> and <u>fact</u> <u>sheets</u> on a variety of topics: childhood poisoning prevention, snakes and spiders, medicine safety, and more. Choose which are most suitable for your audience, then print or share electronically. Here are some ideas for how to use them:

- Send home with students.
- Place on your health fair table.
- Distribute to your coworkers.
- Post in a public place like a kiosk, waiting room, or bulletin board.
- Share a link on your social media platforms.
- Send as an attachment or link in an email to parents, clients, patients, etc.
- Link to our <u>flyer homepage</u> or our <u>list of fact sheets</u> from your own website.

Got Preschoolers?

Poisoning Prevention Tips for Parents and Caregivers



Preschoolers are at risk of poisoning for many reasons. Even with coaching, they cannot reliably distinguish between what is safe and what is dangerous. Their natural curiosity leads them to open cabinets, purses, or drawers where harmful items may be stored. They put everything into the mouth. They like to imitate adult actions such as bandling cleaning products or taking medicine.

This is all normal child behavior but it can lead to danger. It is up to adults to create a safe environment where young children can play and explore.

- Choose medicines and products with child-resistant caps whenever possible. Replace the caps tightly after every use.
- If possible, take your own medicine where children can't watch.
- Don't call medicine "candy
- . Check medicine labels to make sure you are giving the right dose of the right produc
- Use the measuring devices that come with liquid medicines, not kitchen spoons.
- Don't give oral cough & cold medicines to a child younger than 2 without a doctor's approva
- Keep household products in their original packaging. Do not pour contents into dishes a containers used for food and drink.

The most important step you can take to prevent childhood poisoning is to keep all medicines and products up high, out of sight and reach.

This means giving guests a safe place to store their belongings.



WHO CAN HELP? If you think someone swallowed or handled something harmful, of if there has been a medicine mistake or overdose, call the Blue Ridge Poison Center right away: 1-800-222-1222. Don't wait for symptoms. Specially trained nurses and doctors are standing by day or night. Free and confidential.

Activities for Kids, Tweens, & Teens

- 1. <u>Video: You Can be a Poisoning Prevention Hero!</u> Grades 2-5. Eight minutes.
- 2. <u>Home Safety Checklist</u> For all readers (kids may need assistance.)
- 3. Poisoning Prevention Hero Kahoot game. Elementary grades.
- 4. Poisoning Prevention Word Search Puzzle. For all readers.
- 5. <u>Activity Book: *Stay Safe from Poisons!*</u> (puzzles, coloring pages, etc.)
- 6. Online MAD LIB. For all ages (kids may need assistance.)
- 7. <u>Toxic Trivia for Teens</u>--Self-directed Kahoot game. Tweens and Teens.



Activities and Materials for Adults and Senior Adults

- <u>Cannabis (Marijuana): What Parents & Caretakers Need to</u>
 <u>Know.</u> (20 min. virtual quiz game.)
- Printable (one page) <u>Personal Medicine Tracker</u>.
- <u>Poison Smarts!</u> 25-minute video covering the basics of poisoning prevention.
- <u>Five Surprising Dangers</u> found in most homes. (20 minute video for parents and caretakers of kids under age 6)
- <u>Over-the-Counter Medicine Safety</u> -- (20 minute interactive video.)



Don't Miss Out:

- Be aware of emerging or seasonal poisoning concerns.
- Be the first to know about new educational resources.
- Stay up-to-date on the latest trends in substances of abuse.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Delivered to your inbox. Four issues per year.

NOTE: If you automatically received this Toolkit by email, you are already subscribed.

