Welcome!

Poisoning is the number one cause of unintentional injury deaths in the U.S. More people die each year from poisoning than from motor vehicle accidents. Most poisonings happen in the home from exposures to medicines or to common household substances.

We know you feel an obligation to protect your students from harm. We have developed many free resources to help you. All of our programs and materials use evidence-informed strategies, and are guided by the Virginia Department of Education's Standards of Learning (SOL) for health education. If you don't see something that meets your students' unique needs, please get in touch.

Thank you for helping to prevent poisoning in your community!

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Preschoolers

Preschoolers are at risk of poisoning for many reasons. Even with coaching, they cannot tell the difference between what is safe and what is dangerous. Their natural curiosity leads them to explore cabinets, purses, or drawers where harmful substances may be stored. They put everything into the mouth—especially when something looks or smells like a familiar treat. Example: pills look just like candy.

Preschoolers rely on adults to create a safer environment where they can play and explore. It is just as important to educate parents and caregivers as the children in your classroom.

- **Stop. Ask First** (6-minute video for children)
- **List** of children's books with a poison safety theme.
- **Got Preschoolers?** (Flyer)
- **Five Surprising Dangers Found in Most Homes** (20-minute video for adults)
- **Letter** to send home and Home Safety Checklist
K – Early Elementary Grades

As this age group experiences increasing independence, they may encounter poisons in spaces without close adult supervision. They may lack the knowledge or skills to avoid harm from such potential poisons as cleaning products, medicines, pesticides, even outdoor poisoning risks like plants, mushrooms, snakes, etc.

- **Activity Book** (puzzles, games, etc.)
- **List of children's books** with a poison safety theme.
- **YOU Can Be a Poisoning Prevention Hero!** Lesson plan.
- **YOU Can Be a Poisoning Prevention Hero!** 8-minute video.
- **Poisoning Prevention Kahoot** Game (single player version).
- **Poisoning Prevention Kahoot** Game (classroom version).
- **Letter** to send home and **Home Safety Checklist**
Middle & High School Grades

- Poison Jeopardy! (Classroom activity; with Teacher’s Guide)
- Toxic Trivia for Teens (Kahoot game; single player version.
- Toxic Trivia for Teens (Kahoot game; classroom version).
- Over-the-Counter Medicine Safety (Grades 5–8 lessons for responsible medicine use. Developed by Johnson & Johnson)
- Vaping & Nicotine: How Much Do You Know? (Kahoot game; classroom version)
- Vaping & Nicotine: How Much Do You Know? (Kahoot game; single player version)
- Cannabis (Marijuana): What Parents and Caretakers Need to Know (Kahoot game; single player version)
- Cannabis (Marijuana): What Parents and Caretakers Need to Know (flyer)
Don't Miss Out!

Subscribe to our Newsletter

- 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

4 issues per year. Delivered to your inbox. Free!
The Blue Ridge Poison Center is located in Charlottesville, VA. We serve central and southwest Virginia and the entire Shenandoah Valley. We are affiliated with University of Virginia Health, who provides most of our operational support. We also receive funding from the Virginia Department of Health and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). We are certified by America's Poison Centers.

About Us:

The Blue Ridge Poison Center is staffed by healthcare providers with additional training in managing poisoning exposures from all sources. We also answer non-emergency questions about poisoning.

Call **1-800-222-1222** any time of the night or day. FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL. Scan this image to save that number into your smartphone. *Save the number, save a life.*