

Got Preschoolers?

Poisoning Prevention Tips for Parents and Caregivers

Preschoolers are at risk of poisoning for many reasons. Even with coaching, they cannot reliably tell the difference between what is safe and what is dangerous. They are naturally curious and love to explore cabinets, purses, and other places where harmful items may be stored. They put things into their mouths. They imitate adult behaviors.



Create an environment where preschoolers can play, explore, and grow safely.

- Put all medicines, cleaning products, pesticides, and other household products **up and away**, out of a child's reach and sight.
- **Keep** adult products like alcohol, vapes and tobacco products, and cannabis secured in a locked container out of a child's sight and reach.
- Choose medicines and products with **child-resistant caps** whenever possible. Replace the caps tightly after every use.
- **Check medicine labels** to make sure you are giving the right dose of the right product. Do not give a child more than one type of medicine at a time with the same active ingredients.
- **Use the measuring device** that comes with liquid medicine, not a kitchen spoon.
- Keep cleaning products, pesticides, and other household chemicals in their **original packaging**. Do not pour contents into dishes or 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.

Give your visitors a safe place to store their belongings, too.

POISON EMERGENCY OR QUESTION? Call the **Blue Ridge Poison Center: 1-800-222-1222**. Specially trained nurses and doctors are standing by 24 hours a day. Free and confidential. Scan this image to auto-save the number.



The Blue Ridge Poison Center at UVA Health | www.brpc.virginia.edu