



Health
Canada

Santé
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*Your health and
safety... our priority.*

*Votre santé et votre
sécurité... notre priorité.*

Health Canada Consumer Product Safety

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SMDHU Child Care Workshop

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Barrie, ON



Canada 

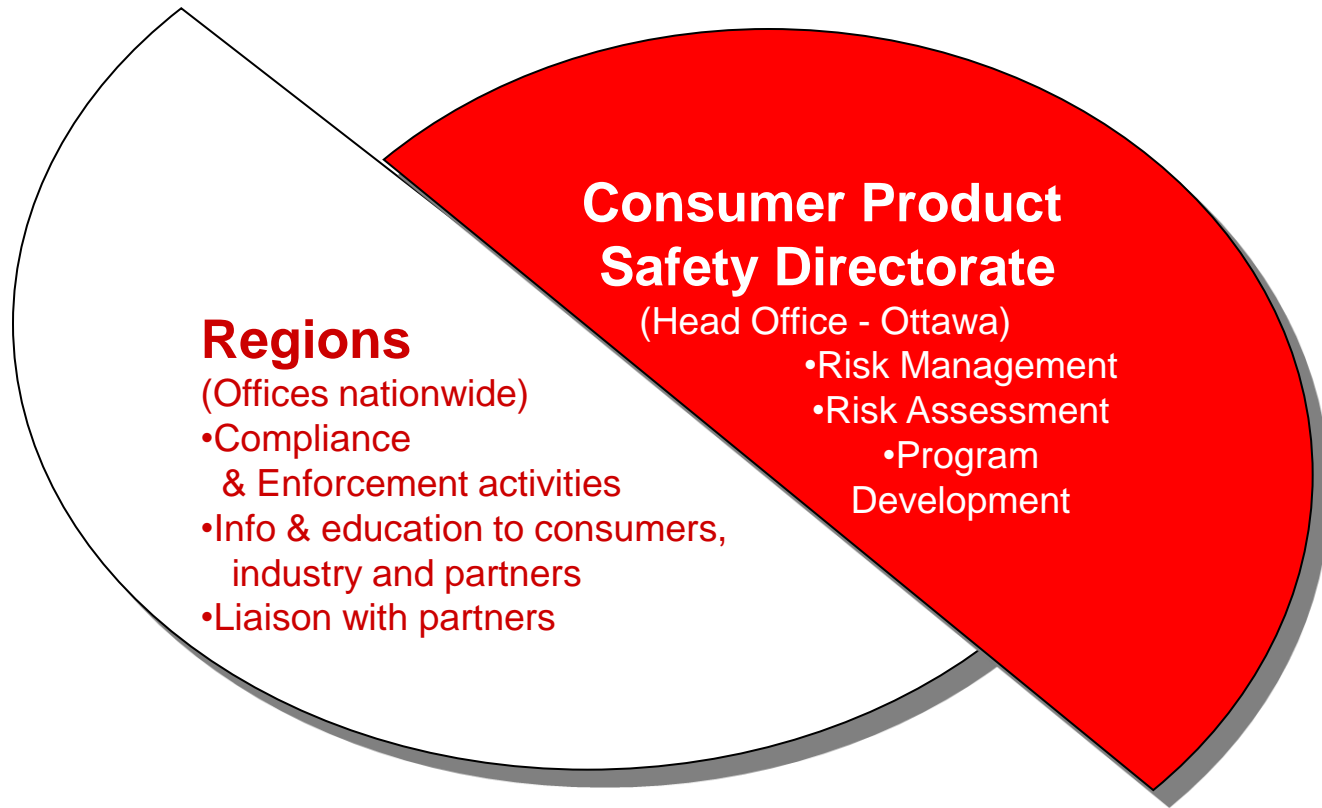


Overview

- ◆ Who we are and what we do
- ◆ Legislation
- ◆ Safety concerns with certain children's products
- ◆ Safe sleep
- ◆ FAQs
- ◆ General product safety information



Our Organization – Health Canada, Consumer Product Safety





Our Partners

- ◆ All levels of government
- ◆ Canadian public
- ◆ Industry
- ◆ Public Health Departments
- ◆ Fire Marshall's Office, Coroners, Police
- ◆ Ministry of Education
- ◆ Early Years Centers/Child Care Groups
- ◆ Ministry of Children and Youth
- ◆ Injury Prevention Coalitions





Legislation

- ◆ **Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA)**
 - ◆ came into force June 20, 2011
 - ◆ safety requirements for consumer products
 - banned items
 - regulated items

- ◆ **Food and Drugs Act, Cosmetic Regulations**





CCPSA: Authorities and Requirements

- ◆ All pre-existing product **regulations** and **prohibitions** are still in place
- ◆ **General Prohibition:** Prohibits the manufacture, importation, advertisement or sale of any consumer products that pose an unreasonable danger to human health or safety
- ◆ **Mandatory Reporting:** Requires industry to report when they know about a serious incident, or death, related to their product to provide government with timely information about important product safety issues
- ◆ **Test Reports:** Requires manufacturers or importers to provide test/study results on products when asked
- ◆ **Mandatory Recall:** Allows Health Canada to recall dangerous consumer products
- ◆ **Document Retention:** Requires companies to retain documents to help trace products throughout the supply chain
- ◆ **Administered Monetary Penalties (AMPS):** Raises fines and penalties for non-compliance



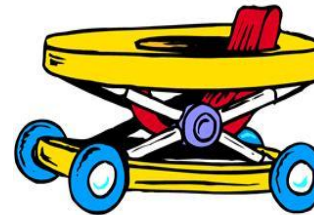
The CCPSA does not apply to products covered by other legislation

- ◆ Explosives, cosmetics, drugs, food, medical devices, ammunition, natural health products, pest control products, fertilizers, vehicles



Banned Products – some examples

- ◆ Self-feeding devices
- ◆ Baby walkers
- ◆ Jequirity beans
- ◆ UFFI
- ◆ Balloon blowing kits
- ◆ Lawn darts
- ◆ BPA in infant feeding bottles





Regulated Products include...

cellulose insulation
glazed ceramics and glassware
carpet
charcoal
consumer chemicals and containers
infant feeding bottle nipples
kettles
surface coating materials
matches
lighters
children's sleepwear
textiles



toys
carriages and strollers
baby gates
pacifiers
cribs and cradles
playpens
car seats
mattresses
safety glass
science education sets
tents
bedding
corded window coverings





Why we have regulations

Injury and death statistics are evaluated and can lead to new or amended regulations. For example:

◆ Cribs and Cradles:

1972 to 1986

- 43 fatalities

1986 to present

- 37 fatalities > 36 from pre-1986 cribs

◆ Baby Gates:

1971 to 1990 (pre regulations)

- 2 fatalities, 15 near misses

After regulations

- no fatalities, no near misses



Cribs made before 1986

- ♦ using a crib manufactured before the **Fall of 1986** poses potential hazards that may result in serious injuries including death



Recent Crib Recalls

- ◆ Drop side failures and breaking hardware resulting in an entrapment hazard.





CPSC May 2010



Home made repairs like this one can be deadly



CPSC May 2010





Crib Inspection Check-list

- ✓ Label complete (date, model, manufacturer, warning)
- ✓ Size of mattress (≤ 3 cm gap between mattress and crib)
- ✓ Mattress is firm and flat.
- ✓ Mattress support bolted to corner posts
- ✓ Corner post height (≤ 3 mm)
- ✓ Slat spacing (≤ 6 cm)
- ✓ No broken, cracked or missing pieces
- ✓ No sharp edges or points
- ✓ No loose bolts or nuts
- ✓ Drop side is sturdy
- ✓ Instructions included/available



Using a Crib Safely



- ◆ Location - away from blind/curtain cords
- ◆ Bedding - fitted sheet, light covering sheet/blanket
- ◆ No soft toys
- ◆ No bumper pads
- ◆ No long strings or cords in or around crib or on child
- ◆ Mattress support position appropriate for child (move down when child can roll over)
- ◆ Crib mobiles and exercisers removed when baby can sit up or earlier
- ◆ Drop sides are latched
- ◆ Move child out of crib when they start to climb out or reach 90 cm tall





Second Hand Products

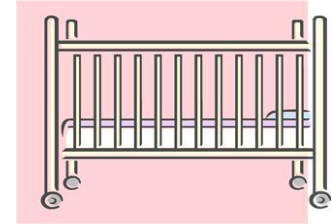
Consumer products, whether new or used, must meet safety standards

What To Look For in a Second-hand Product:

- ✓ Ensure all parts and components are present and functioning
- ✓ Damaged articles should be discarded
- ✓ Look for model number and date of manufacture
- ✓ Check websites for recalls (manufacturers, Health Canada)
- ✓ Instructions for use / assembly instructions/ warning labels must be present on cribs



Second Hand Cribs



Health Canada's recommendation:

- ◆ ***Do not use a crib made before September 1986 as it does not meet current safety regulations. Health Canada does not recommend using cribs older than 10 years because they are more likely to have broken, worn, loose or missing parts, and to be missing warnings or instructions.***



Bumper Pads

- ✘ Health Canada does not recommend the use of bumper pads in cribs due to potential hazards of:
- ◆ entanglement in loose bedding and/or ties
 - ◆ suffocation
 - ◆ strangulation
 - ◆ climbing out





Cribs, Cradles and Bassinets

Crib	Cradle	Bassinet
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sleeping Surface Area $> 5500 \text{ cm}^2$• Primary Function: Sleeping Accommodation• Sides to contain baby• Stand-alone function• For use until baby can climb out or reaches 90 cm• Period of use: ~ 2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• $4000 \text{ cm}^2 < \text{Sleeping Surface Area} \leq 5500 \text{ cm}^2$• Primary Function: Sleeping Accommodation• Sides to contain baby• Stand-alone function• For use until baby can push up on hands and knees or reaches manufacturer's weight limit• Period of use: $\sim 5 - 6$ months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sleeping Surface Area $\leq 4000 \text{ cm}^2$• Primary Function: Sleeping Accommodation• Sides to contain baby• Stand-alone function• For use until baby can roll over or reaches manufacturer's weight limit• Period of use: $\sim 3 - 4$ months





What is a Bassinet ?

- ◆ Bassinets are sleep products with a sleeping surface of less than/equal to 4000 cm²
- ◆ Promoted for sleep or have sleep-related messaging
- ◆ Includes Moses baskets, hammocks, bedside sleepers, bassinet attachments for strollers that can be removed from the chassis and used independently.
- ◆ Does not include playpen accessories.
 - ◆ Upcoming revision to playpen regulations will address playpen bassinet attachments.





Bassinet Regulations

- ◆ **Key Bassinet Requirements**
 - ◆ Minimum side height of 230 mm
 - ◆ Maximum mattress thickness of 38 mm when supplied with bassinet
 - ◆ Labelling and warnings
 - ◆ Strength of mattress support
 - ◆ Entrapment hazards, open holes, pinching hazards, etc.



Amby Baby Motion Bed / Hammocks

Potential Hazards:

- × Not a firm flat sleep surface
- × Possible entrapment hazard (corner or side)
- × Child can become wedged in a position where they can no longer breathe
- × HC Advisory December 2009

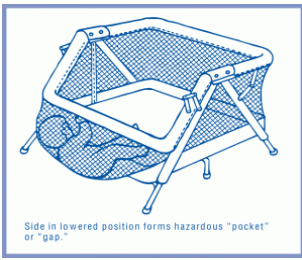




Playpen Safety Checklist

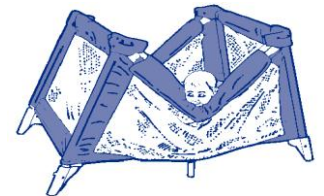
- ✓ Do not leave an unattended sleeping baby in a playpen. Playpens do not meet the same safety requirements and are not as durable as cribs. They are **not** designed to be used as permanent sleep surface.
- ✓ Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the recommended size and weight of child.
- ✓ Always follow the manufacturer's instructions assembling and using a bassinet or change table playpen accessory .
- ✓ Remove attachments when the playpen is occupied. A baby's head can become trapped in the gap between the attachment and the playpen and can strangle or suffocate.
- ✓ Do not place your baby to sleep on the change table attachment.
- ✓ Use only the mattress pad supplied by the manufacturer. Check that the mattress pad is firm.
- ✓ Mattress pads that are worn down in any area could create a suffocation hazard.





Playpen Safety Checklist

- ✓ Keep the sides securely locked in place. Never leave your baby in a playpen with any side down. A baby can roll into the space between the mattress and the mesh side and suffocate.
- ✓ Do not add blankets, pillows, extra padding or an extra mattress to a playpen.
- ✓ Do not put your baby in a playpen with large toys or stuffed toys that can be used to climb out of the playpen.
- ✓ Check for tears in vinyl rail coverings, mesh panels, or the mattress pad of the playpen. A baby could bite off small pieces and choke.
- ✓ Don't place a playpen near a window or window blind cord.
- ✓ Check that used or hand-me-down playpens have not been recalled.



Portable Bed Rails



A child can become trapped if not used properly

- ◆ Never place a child under 2 years old on a bed with a bed rail – instead put a small mattress on the floor beside the bed
- ◆ Only use on a bed with a mattress and box spring
- ◆ Frequently check that they are securely in place with no gaps between the mattress and bed rail
- ◆ Recommend using bed rails that meet ASTM standard



Toddler Beds



- ◆ Follow age and weight restrictions provided by manufacturer
- ◆ Many crib mattresses fit toddler beds
 - ◆ Check that you have the proper size mattress for the bed
 - ◆ Make sure the crib mattress is in good condition before use
 - ◆ Make sure there is no large gap between the mattress and the guardrails, headboard and footboard
- ◆ The bed should be low to the ground as the guardrail won't prevent falling or climbing
- ◆ Openings (above the mattress support) should be less than 8.4 cm apart
- ◆ Check often to make sure the bed frame is sturdy



Bunk Beds

- ◆ Should only be used by children over 6 years
- ◆ Only buy a bunk bed that meets the current ASTM standard
- ◆ Only allow one person on the top bunk at a time
- ◆ Teach children to always use the ladder
- ◆ Never tie ropes (bathrobe belts, skipping ropes) to the bed as they can be a strangulation hazard
- ◆ The top bunk should have guardrails on all 4 sides
- ◆ The mattress should fit snugly in the bed frame
- ◆ There should be nothing extending more than 0.5 cm above the upper edge of the bed



Sleep Sacks



- ◆ Well-fitting so child cannot slide into the sack
- ◆ Alternative to blanket





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Is Your Child Safe? Sleep Time



Canada

New Safe Sleep Publications

- ◆ *Is Your Child Safe? – Sleep Time*
- ◆ *Crib Safety Tips for Parents and Caregivers*
- ◆ *Consumer Information Bulletin - Safe Sleep Practices for Infants*



Safe Sleep Practices



- Back to sleep, bedtime and nap time
- Room sharing recommended for first 6 months
- Bed sharing **not recommended** due to possibility of suffocation and fall hazards
- Babies should never be placed to sleep on standard beds, water beds, air mattresses, couches, futons, or armchairs due to the suffocation hazards with these unsafe surfaces
- Bedside sleeping products not recommended due to possible gaps between bed and product creating suffocation and fall hazards
- Blankets can be a suffocation hazard. Instead consider dressing your baby in a sleeper. If a blanket is needed, it is safest to use a thin, lightweight blanket.



Safe Sleep Key Messages

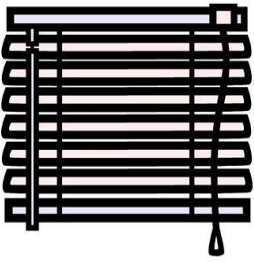
- Firm, flat sleeping surface with tight fitting mattress
- No excess bedding, toys, etc.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for assembly, use, size and weight of child
- A crib is safest
- Do not use old, broken or modified cribs
- Playpens are not recommended for unsupervised sleep. Use only the mattress or pad provided by the manufacturer



Corded Window Covering Products

- ◆ 28 deaths and 22 near misses since 1986.
 - **Incidents continue to happen**
- ◆ 1 to 3 incidents per year in Canada since 1993
- ◆ Children 10 months to 4 years of age
- ◆ Corded Window Covering Regulations (since April 2009)





Blind Cord Safety Tips

- ◆ **Keep the cords high and out of the reach of children.** Whether the blind is up or down or the curtain is open or closed, make sure children cannot reach the cords.
- ◆ When the blind or curtain is fully down or fully closed, all loose pull-cords should be cut as short as possible.
- ◆ Use tension devices with blinds or curtains with looped bead-chains to secure the bead-chain flush to the wall, making it taut.
- ◆ In homes where children live or where children visit, consider replacing corded window coverings with cordless versions.
- ◆ **Never put a crib, bed, high chair, or playpen near a window or a patio door where a child can reach a blind or curtain cord.**





Infant Carriers and Slings

- ✗ Infants can suffocate against the caregiver's body or against the sling
- ✗ Do not zip the baby up in a jacket



- ✓ Keep the infant's head above the sling and away from the caregiver's body
- ✓ Make sure you can always see the baby's face and that it is away from your body



Furniture and Television Tip Over

* **bookcases, cabinets, television stands, dressers**

- ◆ Climbing can cause furniture or televisions to tip over onto a child causing serious head and internal injuries, and suffocation
- ◆ Attach furniture to the wall using angle braces, anchors or safety straps
- ◆ Do not place items that may appeal to a child, such as toys, plants and remote controls, on top of a television or tall furniture



Bath Seats

- ◆ 12 deaths and 23 near misses
- ◆ False sense of security, **supervision** is the key

Incidents involved:

- ◆ Suction cups coming loose
- ◆ Seats tipping over
- ◆ Child slipping through leg opening



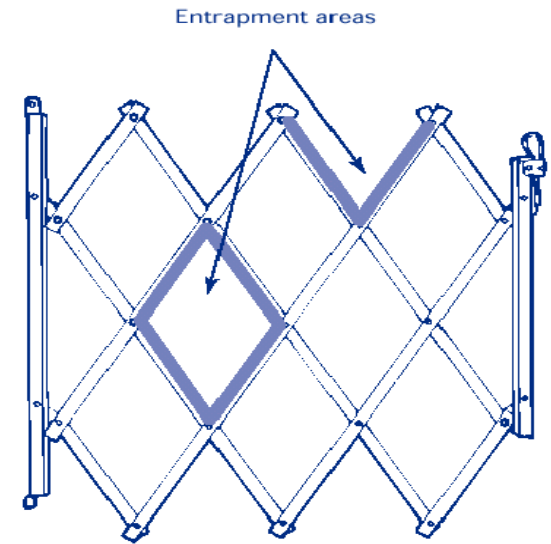
Health Canada is assessing the options to ban or to regulate.





Baby Gates

- ◆ Install baby gates according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- ◆ Do not use pressure gates at the top of a stairway. Use hardware-mounted gates that do not use pressure; they are more secure.
- ◆ Make sure the gate is secure each time it is closed.
- ◆ Openings in the gate should be small enough that a child's head cannot fit through



Hazardous head entrapment risk





Carriages and Strollers



- ◆ Must have a lap belt attached to seat or frame (and should be used)
- ◆ Must have working brakes and locking mechanism for folding models
- ◆ Ensure wheels are solidly attached

Recent recalls involve finger amputations in the folding hinge mechanism

- ◆ Make sure children's fingers are clear when opening and closing the stroller

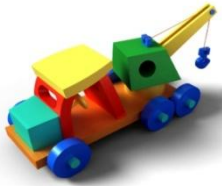




Pacifiers

- ◆ Stringent regulations cover size of mouth-guard, mechanical separation, chemicals in the latex
- ◆ Pacifiers must be strong enough not to separate into small pieces on which a baby could choke or suffocate
- ◆ Never tie a pacifier around a baby's neck - this is a strangulation hazard
- ◆ Pacifier should not be used as a teether – don't let baby chew on mouthguard





Toys

Chemical Requirements

- ◆ Certain chemicals are prohibited/restricted eg. Petroleum Distillates, Methyl Alcohol, Carbon Tetrachloride, etc.
- ◆ Heavy metals such as lead, antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, selenium, mercury are prohibited/restricted in surface coatings on toys

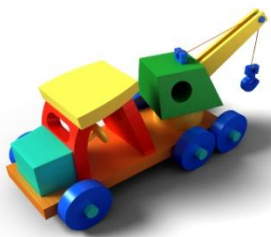
Flammability Requirements

- ◆ Hair, clothes, plush fabric

Mechanical Requirements

- ◆ Hard eyes and noses on all soft toys must be securely attached
- ◆ No sharp edges or points under reasonable foreseeable use testing (drop test, push/pull test)





Toys for Children Under 3 Years

- ◆ Meet general requirements for all toys (no sharp points or edges, heavy metals in paints, etc.)
- ◆ No small components (or released when tested with drop test and push/pull test)
- ◆ Rattles must be chunky so they do not pose an impaction hazard
- ◆ Discard broken or damaged toys



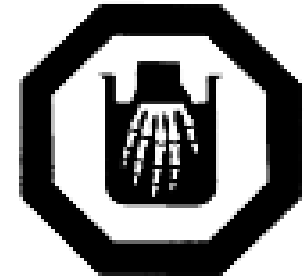
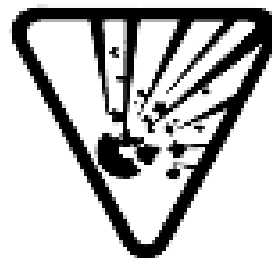


Lighters

- ◆ Child resistant NOT child proof
- ◆ Key to safety around children is keeping them **out of sight** and **out of reach**
- ◆ Regulations cover cigarette lighters and utility or BBQ lighters
- ◆ Specific labeling required and lighters must meet child- resistance and performance standard requirements



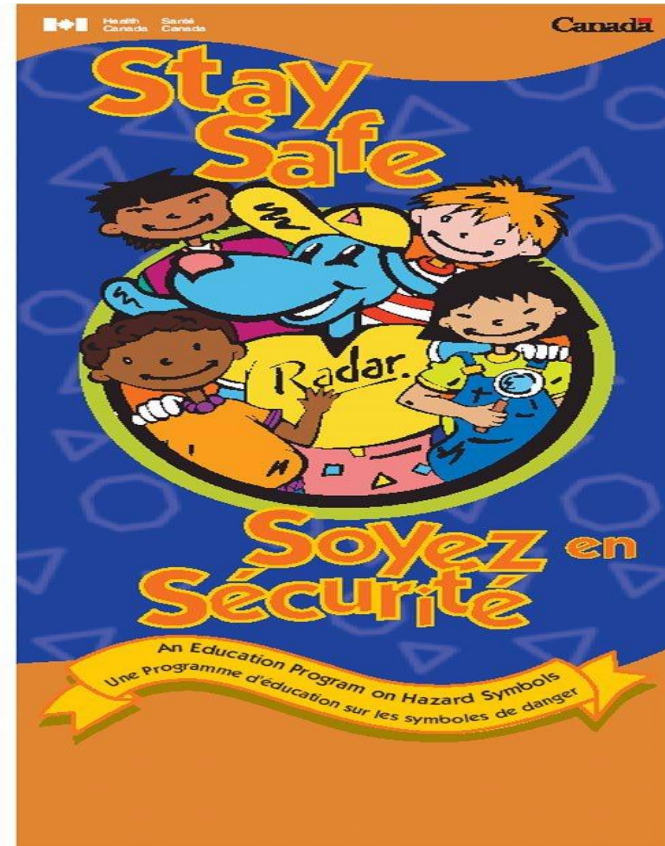
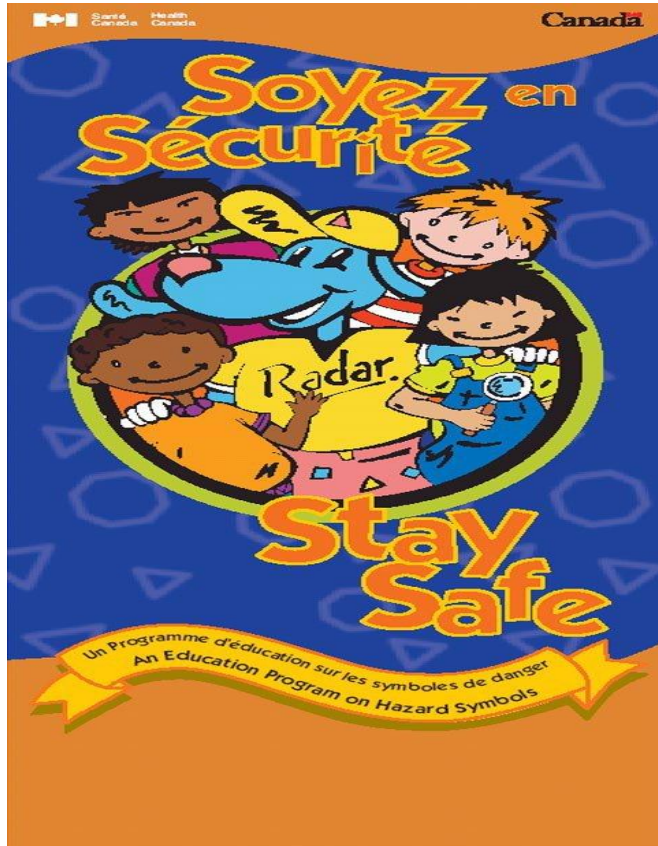
Household Consumer Chemicals



- ◆ Hazard symbols show type of hazard
- ◆ 50% of hospital visits for children under 5 are due to poisonings
- ◆ **STAY SAFE** program to educate children from preschool to age 9



Stay Safe Educational Program



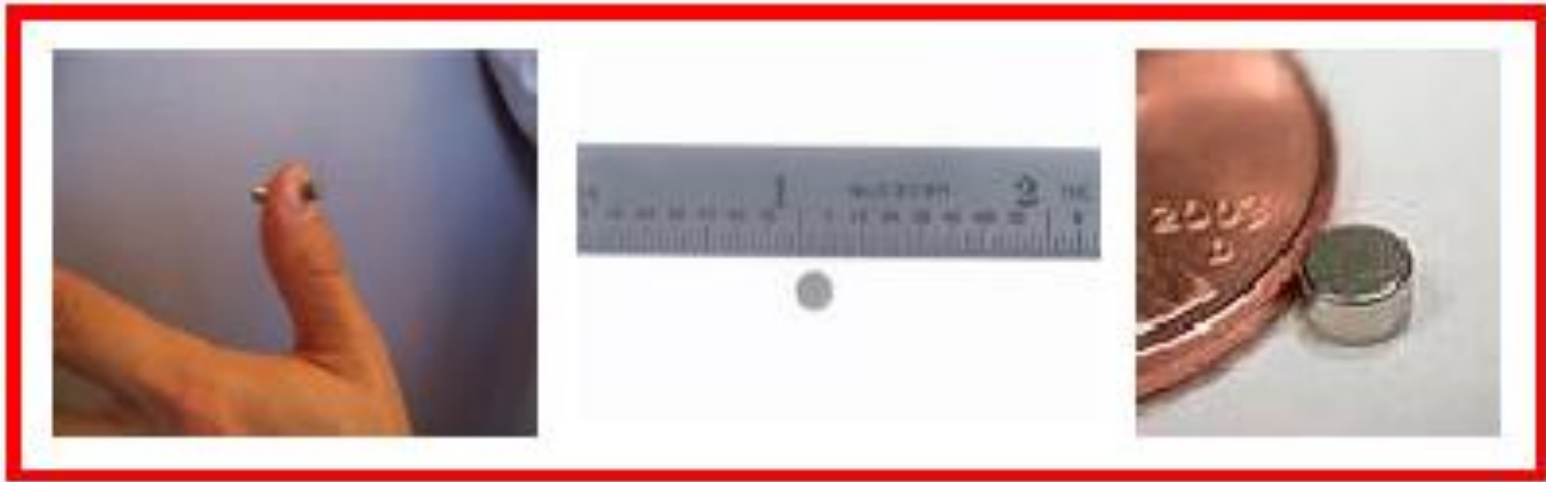
Bringing consumer products into Canada

- ◆ Some products are prohibited in Canada and some must meet Canadian safety requirements to be allowed into Canada
- ◆ Common cross-border purchases: car seats, cribs, playpens, strollers
- ◆ Car seats purchased in the US are illegal for use in Canada - **must have Canada's National Safety Mark**
- ◆ Crib standards are more stringent in Canada
- ◆ Product recalled - how will you know?
- ◆ Safety problem? - Health Canada will not investigate

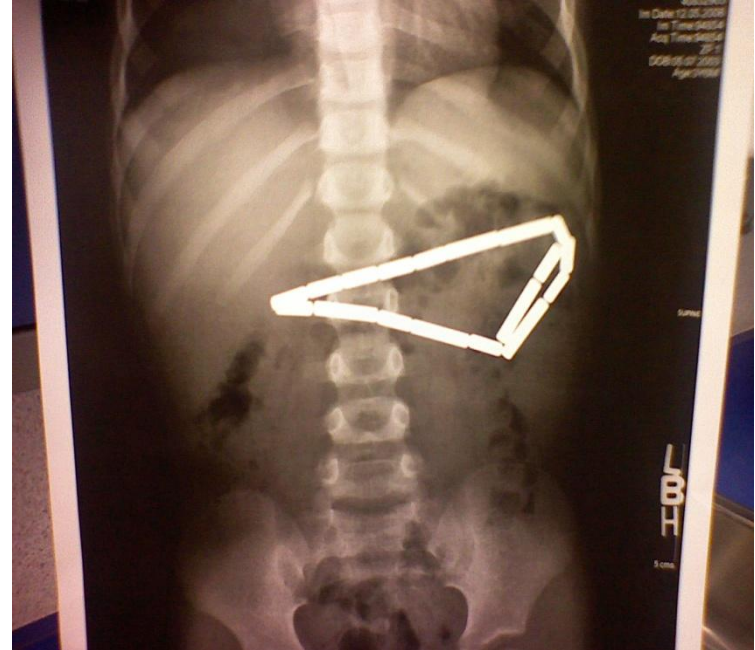
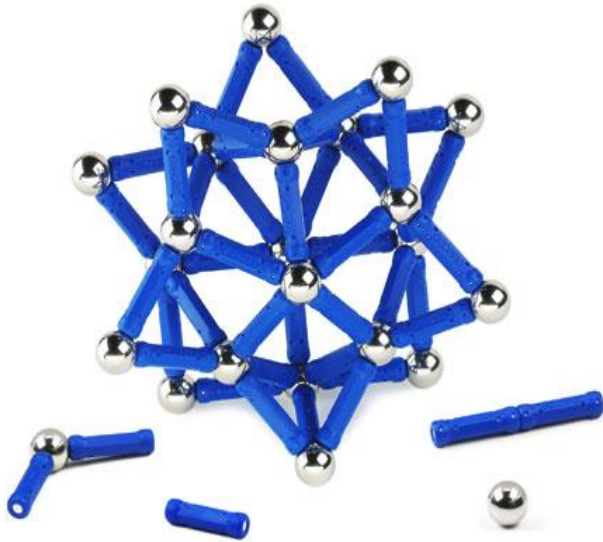


Small Magnets in Toys

- ♦ Small powerful “rare earth” magnets have a very strong magnetic pull i.e. building toys, science kits or board games
- ♦ If a child swallows more than one magnet over a short period of time, the magnets can attract in the intestine and cause serious damage which can be fatal



Small Magnets in Toys





HC Advisory on Powerful Magnetic Beads

What consumers should do:

- Keep products with small powerful magnets out of the reach of children of any age.
- Teach children **of all ages** that small powerful magnets, and small items containing magnets, **should never be placed in their mouth.**
- Seek immediate medical care for any child who has swallowed, or is suspected of having swallowed, one or more magnets.
- Check around the home and other areas for small powerful magnets that may have detached from products and keep them safely out of reach of children.
- Read and follow the age recommendations, warnings, safety messages and assembly instructions for products with small powerful magnets.
- Store toys and games for adults safely out of the reach of children.





Resources

- ◆ Our web site: www.healthcanada.gc.ca/cps
 - ◆ Reports & Publications
 - ◆ Consumer Education, Industry & Professionals
 - ◆ Consumer Product Recalls
 - ◆ Kids' Health and Safety
 - ◆ Safe Sleep
 - ◆ Report an unsafe consumer product
 - ◆ Subscribe to consumer product safety news

- ◆ Safe sleep (PHAC): www.publichealth.gc.ca/safesleep





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Questions?

