



Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

“As Attorney General, I work each day toward creating safer communities for children – communities in which parents feel confident that their kids are safe from school violence, sex offenders, and even online predators. However, children also face an equally serious threat from a less obvious culprit: lead.”

Attorney General Lisa Madigan

Is Lead Poisoning a Serious Danger to the Health and Safety of My Kids?

The dangers of lead poisoning are very real. Most harmful to children ages six and younger, lead poisoning can cause irreversible neurological damage, intelligence loss, attention disorders, and behavioral and other developmental problems.

How Are Children Exposed to Lead Poisoning?

Children are most commonly exposed to lead poisoning through lead-based paint in older homes. Although lead-based paint was banned for use in housing in 1978, homes built before the ban may still contain the leaded paint. Poisoning most often occurs as a result of children inhaling or ingesting either lead dust or paint chips.

Children may also be exposed to lead contained in children’s products. While accessible lead in consumer products has been banned, discoveries of both accessible lead and lead paint in or on children’s toys and clothing have prompted millions of unit recalls.

How Can I Find Out if My Child Has Lead Poisoning?

For the most part, unless lead poisoning is very severe, symptoms are rare. It is virtually impossible to detect without a blood test.

What Can I Do to Protect My Children from Lead?

Lead poisoning is completely preventable. You can protect your children by following some basic guidelines:

- Get your children, ages six months through six years, tested for lead each year.
- If you live in an older home, have it inspected for lead. Call the Illinois Department of Public Health’s Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-545-2200.
- Regularly wet clean floors, windowsills, and other surfaces. Take off shoes before entering the house.
- Wash children’s hands before they eat, after they play outside, and before they go to sleep.
- Find out if you have any recalled products in your home. A list of recalled products is available at www.cpsc.gov. You can also visit www.KidsInDanger.org for more information on recalled products.
- Stay up-to-date on recalled products. You can sign up to receive e-mail notification of recalls at www.cpsc.gov. Kids In Danger also sends out monthly e-mail alerts, which you can sign up for by visiting www.KidsInDanger.org or calling 312-595-0649.

Where Can I Get More Information?

If you would like to know more about lead poisoning and the presence of lead in children’s products, Kids In Danger, a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the safety of children’s products, has released an important report titled, *Playing With Poison: Lead Poisoning Hazards of Children’s Product Recalls 1990-2004*.

Playing With Poison provides information about the causes of lead poisoning and its harmful effects on children; ways to protect your family from lead; details on children’s products recalled for lead; and recommendations to help keep products with lead from ever reaching our kids. *Playing With Poison* can be obtained in its entirety at www.KidsInDanger.org. The recall list on the back of this sheet was excerpted from that report.

**Children's Products Recalled for Lead Hazard
1990 – 2005**

For more information, find complete recall information on these products at www.cpsc.gov or call Kids In Danger at 312-595-0649. These are specific products; this list does not imply that all of the named products by these manufacturers have been recalled. Check the recall notice for dates of manufacture and sale and model numbers as appropriate.

A & A Global metal toy jewelry sold in vending machines	Kmart Corp. infant girls rompers
A.J. Cohen Distributors 64 crayons	L.M. Becker & Co. metal toy jewelry sold in vending machine
Advantage Publishers educational kits	L.M. Becker & Co. toy necklaces
Alpha Int'l Inc. (Gearbox) 17 models of pedal cars	Learning Curve Int'l two different activity toys
Bargain Wholesale 64 crayons, kidz biz	Little Tikes crib centers
Baum Imports 64 crayons	M. Grumbacher paintbrushes
Brand Imports children's rings	Marx Brush Manufacturing paintbrush set
Brand Imports metal toy jewelry sold in vending machine	McDonalds & Bobbie Dreams Bobble head figures
Cardinal Distributing Co. metal toy jewelry sold in vending machine	Meco Corp. Children's Furniture Set: red chairs
Charming Shoppers Inc. children's necklaces	Mervyn's California children's picnic sets
Concord Enterprises 12 jumbo crayons	Midwest Importers wooden bead jewelry
Direct Source plastic Halloween candy buckets	NIKE little Air Jordan sneakers
Disney Princess bracelet keyrings (Monogram)	Oriental Trading Co. wooden beads on cord and spinning tops
Disney World children's sunglasses/cap set	Oscar Mayer Foods Corp. wienermobile pedal cars
Dollar General metal heart-shaped pendants	Overseas United fun times 72 crayons
Dollar General necklace and earring set	PJ Toys children's furniture
Dynamic Division of Agora super jumbo crayons	Polymeric paint kits
Dynamic Division of Agora Int'l 8 crayons	Pyramid Accessories Mulan backpacks & luggage
Edna Products Co. animal shape wagons	Radio Flyer little wooden wagons
Effanbee Doll Co. miniature rocking chairs	Raymond Geddes Co children's metallic necklaces
EMSCO Inc. children's toy brooms	Riviera Trading metallic costume bracelets
Front Porch Classics old century dread pirate game	Safan Ltd. magnet games
Gap Kids spring/summer anoraks	Shakespeare children's fishing poles
Glory Stationery Manufacturing Co. crayons	Target (Agglo Corp) multicolored sidewalk chalk
Gymboree children's umbrellas	Toys "R" Us (Agglo Corp) sidewalk chalk
Hidden Hills Maptangle floor mat game	Toys "R" Us 48 Crayons
Hirschberg Schutz metal charms	U.S. Toy Co. puzzles
HIS International denim jumper sets	Universal Int'l 64 crayons
Jaelyn Barney bags, beach bags and backpacks	Walmart Stores Nu-tronix Karaoke Players
Kindermusik Int'l lily pad clacker instruments	Wear Me Apparel infant boys rompers
Kipp Brothers 12 crayons	XL Machine Ltd. dollhouse bathroom furniture
	Zebco children's fishing poles

please visit

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