

Childproofing Your Home Quiz

Activity Sheet 1 Answers

1. (*False*) Safety caps are merely child-resistant, not childproof – a toddler can often open a safety cap within 10 minutes – the cap is just a delaying tactic.

It's vital to keep drugs, even those with safety caps, out of the reach of children. Better yet, keep drugs out of sight and/or locked up.

2. (*All – hot dogs, hard candies, grapes, nuts*) These four foods cause more than 40 percent of all childhood choking deaths. Until toddlers have all their teeth and are able to chew their food well, they are inclined to swallow such foods whole. That can block a child's narrow airway and cause choking, a particular problem because of a child's underdeveloped ability to cough up obstructing foods.

Don't give young children small foods like grapes or nuts. Cut up solid foods in small pieces, and serve them in small quantities. Encourage children under five to chew vigorously; monitor their eating sessions. Don't let them eat while talking, running, or lying down. Don't let children toss or pour food into their mouths.

3. (*False*) Firearms should be unloaded and locked away. Ammunition should be locked in a separate place.
4. (*B – safety gates*) Safety gates prevent falls down stairs and keep children away from dangerous areas.
5. (*C – stationary bicycles*) As more and more people buy exercise equipment, doctors are seeing a dramatic rise in the number of related injuries to young children. Stationary bikes injure thousands of kids each year, with more than a third of them suffering hand or finger injuries.

Don't let young children use or play with exercise equipment without supervision.

6. (*False*) Hot liquids are the leading cause of nonfatal burns. Kids have thinner skin and thus are severely scalded at lower temperatures than adults. Water at 140 degrees F. will cause a serious burn in three seconds; even at 130 degrees F., it can produce a burn in 30 seconds.

Set the thermostat on your water heater to 120 degrees F.

7. (*C - they can drown in them*) Each year about 50 infants drown in American homes after falling head-first into these large buckets (often kept for household use) while the bucket is filled with water or other liquids and left unattended.

If you have young children, do not leave these buckets around the house – and never leave even a small amount of liquid in them.

8. (*False*) Medicines should be flushed down the toilet. It's important to watch and make sure all the medicine has been flushed.

Again, remember to keep all medicines locked up and out of reach.

9. *(All)* Do not allow children to use or play with objects that have long cords.

Tie cords of blinds and curtains up out of reach, or use a blind cord wind-up device. Hood and neck drawstrings can get caught in car doors, handrails, play equipment, etc.

10. *(C – 120 degrees F.)* Set water heaters to 120 degrees Fahrenheit to prevent burns from hot water.

Anti-scald devices are available for faucets and showerheads. A plumber may need to install them. Always test the water temperature before you place an infant or young child in the water.

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