

Toys and Eye Safety



Keeping an Eye on the Dangers

Toys play a tremendous role in childhood development, but can be dangerous if not used properly. A report conducted by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission has stated there were an estimated 251,800 toy-related injuries treated in the ER in 2014. Many of these incidents could have been avoided with proper supervision and education.

Set Your Sight on the Right Toys

The decline in toy recalls year-over-year indicates that toy companies are stepping up to the safety plate. Since there's not a comprehensive list of safe toys, it's smart to establish your own safety checks to help make the right toy decisions for your little ones.

Here are some helpful guidelines:



1. Prepare

Educate yourself on the right toys for your child's age group and do your research. You can browse user reviews online and look up safety information from the manufacturer.



2. Read Labels

Look for the letters "ASTM". This means that the toy meets certain national safety standards. Always read all safety messages on toy packaging.



3. Play Inspector

CPSC regulation prohibits sharp points in new toys and other articles intended for use by children under eight years of age. Examine for sharp edges or other manufacturing defects before gifting.



4. Keep Safety Going at Home

Make sure your child understands how to properly and safely play with their toys. Never leave them unattended and pick up when playtime is over.