



SAFE COMMUNITY COALITION

Toy Safety

- Use recommended age labeling as a guide and look for warnings and other safety messages on toy packaging.
- Use a certified choke tube to determine if a small toy or toy part presents a choking hazard.
- Parents should select toys that match the abilities, skill and interest level of the child. Purchases should take into consideration all children at home. Toys intended for older children should be stored out of reach of younger children.
- Check for sturdy, well-sewn seams on stuffed animals and cloth dolls. Be certain eyes, noses, buttons, ribbons and other decorations are securely fastened and cannot be pulled or bitten off.
- Since an uninflated balloon or a piece of broken balloon could present a choking or suffocation hazard, adults should inflate balloons and supervise their use with children under the age of eight. All pieces of broken balloons should be disposed of immediately.
- Play is safer when adults are involved than when toys are given to children and parents supervise from a distance.
- Parents should check toys periodically for breakage and loose, small parts, and such toys should be repaired or discarded.
- Parents should teach children to put toys away after playing to prevent falls.

Written by: Dane County Division of Public Health

