

Toys are important for children's growth and development. Protect children from unsafe toys:

- **Pick toys that match the child's age and skill level.**
- **Supervise young children when they play with toys.**

AVOID CHOKING AND SUFFOCATION HAZARDS

- Children can swallow or choke on toys with loose or small parts.
 - **Do not let young children play with toys and parts that can fit into their mouth.**
- Broken or deflated balloons cause more suffocation deaths than any other children's product.
 - **Throw away broken balloons and keep deflated balloons out of reach of children.**
- Toys, baby monitors, and other objects with cords, strings, beads, or straps can wrap around a young child's neck.
 - **Make sure to place items with a cord or string out of the reach of babies and young children.**
- Plastic wrappings, plastic bags and other packaging can suffocate young children.
 - **Store plastic wrapping and plastic bags out of reach of young children.**



KEEP CHILDREN SAFE WHEN RIDING

- Make sure children use helmets and other safety equipment (for example knee pads and wrist guards) when biking, skating, and riding skateboards and scooters.
- Children under 14 years of age must wear an approved helmet when riding a bicycle in New York City.



CHECK FOR OTHER POTENTIAL HAZARDS IN TOYS

- Lead, cadmium and other harmful chemicals have been found in toys, jewelry, good luck charms and other children's products.
 - Visit [cpsc.gov](https://www.cpsc.gov) to see children's products found to have harmful chemicals.
 - Never give adult jewelry to children. Adult jewelry can contain high levels of lead.
- Avoid toys with sharp edges which can cut skin.
- Fix or throw out broken toys right away.
- Charge electric-powered toys for young children. Chargers and adapters that come with toys can shock or burn.
- Air rockets, darts, and other toys that shoot objects can cause serious eye injuries. Keep these away from young children.
- Buy toys with battery compartments that are sealed or need a screwdriver to open. Button batteries can cause burns and other serious injuries if swallowed.
- Keep small magnet toys away from young children. Magnetic parts can cause serious injury or death if swallowed.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- **Read labels carefully.**
 - Always follow age recommendations on labels. Keep toys for older kids out of reach of babies and toddlers.
 - Look for toys that meet the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) toy safety standards.
 - Buy toys that have the words "non-toxic" on their labels.
- Visit [nyhealth.gov/environmental/children/recalls.htm](https://www.nyhealth.gov/environmental/children/recalls.htm) or [cpsc.gov](https://www.cpsc.gov) to get information on toy recalls. Never buy or give away recalled toys.
- Visit www.nyc.gov/lead or call 311 for more information about lead poisoning. Make sure your child gets a blood lead test. In New York City, doctors must test children for lead poisoning at one and two years of age. Ask your doctor about testing older children if they have been exposed to lead.

