

When asked about burn prevention and fire safety, what leaps to mind?

More than likely, it's things like changing the batteries in your smoke alarms, and keeping your children a safe distance from your stove while cooking.

While these are great answers, there are numerous other items in your home that pose a serious risk to your children that you may not think of immediately.

Read on to discover how to protect your children and family from these not-so-obvious dangers lurking in your home!

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Hidden Dangers Issue

IN 2010 ALONE, MORE THAN **3,400** BUTTON BATTERY SWALLOWING CASES WERE REPORTED IN THE US, RESULTING IN **19** SERIOUS INJURIES, AND IN SOME CASES **DEATH**.

—US CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION AND THE CDC

Hidden
Danger
#1

BUTTON BATTERIES

Electronic devices are a part of our daily lives; however, inside the battery compartment of countless small electronics may be a very powerful coin-sized button battery. When swallowed, these batteries can get stuck in the throat and cause severe burns. Small children often have easy access to these devices, and many parents do not know there is a risk.

When a coin lithium battery gets stuck in a child's throat, the saliva triggers an electrical current. This causes a chemical reaction that can severely burn the esophagus in as little as two hours.

Many items in your home contain button batteries including mini remote controls, bathroom scales, calculators, watches, singing greeting cards, flameless candles, and key fobs. These products may seem completely harmless, and are left out in our homes, easily accessible to our children. We don't tend to even consider that many of these items contain button batteries, because they come with the battery already installed. Kids under the age of 4 are at the greatest risk.

Please visit www.thebatterycontrolled.com for more on this topic. Please share this life saving information with your friends and family!

TO KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE:

Look in your home for any items that may contain coin-sized button batteries.

Keep loose or spare batteries locked away.

If your child swallows a button battery, go to the Emergency Room immediately! Do not allow your child to eat or drink until an x-ray is done. Do not induce vomiting.

Hidden
Danger
#2

TREADMILLS



A treadmill? Burn your child? Yes, it's true. Approximately 25,000 injuries occur annually to children from home exercise equipment. Treadmills, in particular, pose a burn hazard. Children can wedge their hand between the frame and the moving belt of the treadmill, causing friction burns that can be so severe that they may require grafting.

TO PREVENT THESE TYPES OF INJURIES:

- Keep small children out of the room or confined to a playpen when exercising.
- Take the key out of the treadmill so a child can't start it.
- Keep your exercise equipment in a locked room if possible, and always make sure it is unplugged when not in use.

Hidden
Danger
#3



TABLECLOTHS & PLACEMATS

Again, you might ask, how could something as "harmless" as tablecloths and placemats pose a burn hazard to your children? Think about a toddler who is learning to pull himself up. Now picture him next to a table which has a tablecloth and a hot bowl of soup on it. What will be the first thing he reaches for to pull himself up?

The same goes for placemats....a child who may be just tall enough to see over the edge of the table and spies a hot mug on a placemat while mom is out of the room.....he may not be able to reach the mug, but is clever enough to pull on the placemat to pull the mug closer to him.

These scenarios can result in devastating scald burns. When small children are in the house, it is best not to use tablecloths and placemats!

Hidden
Danger
#4



GLASS FIREPLACE DOORS

When we think about the dangers of fireplaces, most of us probably think about the immediate danger of flame and sparks from the fire. There is another hidden danger, especially when it comes to gas fireplaces: Glass Fireplace Doors.

Toddlers are naturally attracted to the flames, and these little ones move so quickly that there may not be time for you, as a parent, to stop them before they are in harms way. Burns can happen in an instant!

The glass fireplace doors can heat to almost 500 degrees in a matter of minutes, and can stay hot enough to burn a child for up to 45 minutes after they have been turned off!

They have been compared to an oven without a door. They become so hot that skin can, and will, actually melt to the glass.

There are currently no federal regulations in place to protect children from the hot glass. Some newer models of fireplaces come with a protective screen, and for older models, screens can be purchased.

They are designed to put space between the hot glass and bare skin; the fire is still clearly visible through the screen, and the screen does not get hot enough to burn skin even when the fireplace is on.

Please be aware of this danger, not only in your home, but also if you are visiting someone else's home that has a fireplace with a glass door!



JACK-O-LANTERNS

When you think of Halloween, one of the first things that probably enters your mind is carving Jack-O-Lanterns! It's important to supervise children while carving, but you must also exercise caution when lighting them!

- Only adults should use matches or lighters to light the candle inside the pumpkin. Store matches and lighters out of reach of children.
- Make sure the candle is securely anchored inside the pumpkin.
- Consider carving the pumpkin from the bottom instead of the top. This makes it easier to level the pumpkin, and it can be placed over a candle that is in a safe container.
- Make sure you light the pumpkin with a long fireplace match or a bbq lighter to prevent burning your hand.
- The SAFEST way to light your pumpkin is with LED candles, a small flashlight, or an electric window candle!



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5TH is the end of Daylight Saving time! We change our clocks, and it's a perfect time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms! Even if you have hard-wired smoke alarms in your home, please remember to make sure that the back-up batteries are fresh. ALL smoke alarm units, both battery operated and hard-wired, should be replaced every ten years. Talk to your children about why smoke alarms are important! Hang this "Smoke Alarm Monthly Test" card on your refrigerator to remind you to test your alarms every month!

Monthly Smoke Alarm Test

CHECK BOX AFTER TESTING ALL SMOKE ALARMS

<input type="checkbox"/>	JANUARY	<input type="checkbox"/>	FEBRUARY
<input type="checkbox"/>	MARCH	<input type="checkbox"/>	APRIL
<input type="checkbox"/>	MAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	JUNE
<input type="checkbox"/>	JULY	<input type="checkbox"/>	AUGUST
<input type="checkbox"/>	SEPTEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/>	OCTOBER
<input type="checkbox"/>	NOVEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/>	DECEMBER

 Burn Prevention Network

KIDS ACTIVITY CORNER

TOASTED PUMPKIN SEEDS

After carving your pumpkin, have some fun with those pumpkin seeds! Enjoy a healthy snack while teaching your child some safety tips in the kitchen.



Rinse the stringy pulp from the seeds...dry them off and toss two cups seeds with two tablespoons of vegetable oil and salt to taste.

Spread on a single layer on a baking sheet and bake at 325° for about 45 minutes, stirring occasionally.

For a spicier snack, add 1/8 tsp garlic powder and 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce to seeds before baking.

The seeds can be stored in an air tight container for several months!



A *working* smoke alarm *significantly* increases your chances of surviving a home fire. Clip this card as a reminder to test your alarms every month!



**Burn
Prevention
Network**

For more information, visit:

WWW.BURNPREVENTION.ORG



FALL BOOK LIST

Why Do Leaves Change Color?

by Betsy Maestro

Arthur Jumps Into Fall

by Marc Brown

The Leaves Fall All Around – My first rookie reader

by Steve Mack

Welcome Fall (Little Scholastic)

by Jill Ackerman

Fall (Bright Baby Touch and Feel)

by Roger Priddy

The Busy Squirrel

by Nancy Tafuri



FALL SCAVENGER HUNT

Create a simple list of items that can be readily found during the fall: Pumpkin, Acorn, Red Leaf, Pinecone, Tree, Apple, Scarecrow.....then take a walk around your neighborhood or local park and allow your toddler to find each item!