

Quality Care For Kids Newsletter

December 2024 | December is Safe Toys & Gifts Month

Written by Heidi Hotvedt, RN, BSN, Healthy Child Care Iowa Program Coordinator

December is Safe Toys & Gifts Month. If you are buying a gift for a child, or are with a child who receives a gift, keep these safety tips in mind.

Before you purchase a toy:

- Read all warnings and instructions on the box.
- Ask yourself if the toy is right for the child's ability and age.
- Look for the letters "ASTM." This means the product meets the national safety standards set by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

Before letting children play with toys:

- Inspect toys to make sure they are safe and sturdy.
- Explain how to use the toy.
- Fix or throw away broken toys.

Always

- Keep young children away from toys meant for older children. Toys with small parts must have a choking hazard warning label. The label will say "toy is not intended for use by children under age three".
- Supervise children while playing with toys.
- Remember to have children wear CPSC certified helmets for all wheeled riding equipment.

Sign up for toy recall alerts!

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December 2-6 is National Influenza Vaccination Week

As winter approaches, it is important to be aware of flu season. Flu viruses typically spread in fall and winter, with activity peaking between December and February. National Influenza Vaccination Week is December 2-6, 2024 - is a great opportunity to encourage all child care providers and children in child care ages 6 months and older, to get their flu vaccine.

The flu can be more dangerous than the common cold for children. Children younger than 5 years old—especially those younger than 2—and children of any age with certain chronic health conditions, are at higher risk of developing potentially serious flu-related complications.



Scan the QR code to find your local CCNC or visit online at

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci>