

GREGORY & REITER, P.C.



1-888-419-2229

HIDDEN HAZARDS EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Choking Hazards

Many foods like hard candy, nuts, popcorn, grapes, hotdogs, apples, uncooked carrots and chips are choking hazards for children under four.

Plastic Wrappers and Bags: When you come home from the store, **throw away all plastic bags and wrappers** from cheeses, vegetables and meats to prevent your child from suffocating or choking. Look around the house to see if there are any bags lying around (including dry-cleaning bags) that your baby could put over his head. Store bags out of reach or in a locked cabinet or closet.

Plastic Utensils: **Never feed your baby with a plastic utensil because it can break in your baby's mouth** and lead to injury or choking. Always use baby-safe utensils made of durable material that won't break off if they bite them.

Older Siblings' Toys: Toys for children over the age of three are not acceptable for your baby because they can be small enough to be a choking hazard. **Keep older siblings' toys in a separate area** and limit younger children's access. Buy toys that are non-toxic, fire-resistant and age-appropriate.

Pets: Keep choking hazards like pet food and pet toys out of your child's reach. In addition, to protect your child against dog bites, **keep children away from pets' food dishes.**



Dangerous Appliances

The Dishwasher: An unlocked or open dishwasher is hazardous to your child. A loaded dishwasher has sharp edges and parts.

The Oven: Never leave the oven door open. Create a kid-free zone around the oven and stove.

Second Hand Products

Furniture and products purchased at a garage sale may seem like a bargain but they can be dangerous since they may not meet today's standards. Older furniture, for instance, may have been made with lead paint and second-hand car seats may have been in a car crash. For updated safety standards on all children's products and to learn about recalls, visit the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's website at www.cpsc.gov.