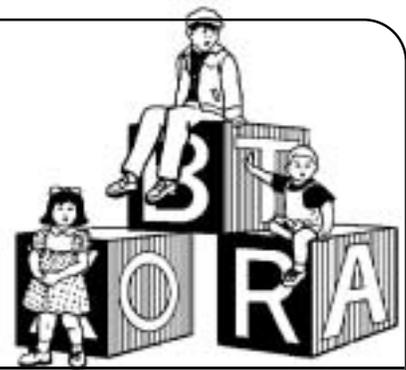


Building Blocks to Safety

*A newsletter for prevention of
childhood injuries*



North Dakota Department of Health

Fall 2004

Division of Injury Prevention and Control

Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome

What is shaken baby syndrome?

Shaken baby syndrome occurs when a child is violently shaken, causing his or her brain to slam back and forth against the skull. Shaking a baby can lead to mental retardation, blindness, paralysis, coma or death.

Anyone is capable of shaking a baby. The most common reason a baby is shaken is that the baby won't quit crying and the caretaker can't tolerate it. Many times the intent is not to harm the child, but to quiet him or her.

Prevention:

All babies cry and all toddlers have temper tantrums at some point. **All** caregivers need to know this behavior is normal. Anyone who takes care of a baby or young child for any amount of time needs to know how to comfort him or her during this time. Caregivers also need to know that they may get frustrated and may become angry during these times if the child's behavior doesn't change. To prevent shaken baby syndrome, caregivers need to know how to comfort a child. Below are suggestions for comforting young children:

- Check to see if the child is hungry.
- Offer a pacifier.
- Sing or play soft music.
- Secure the baby in a car seat and take him or her for a ride.
- Softly run your finger over the baby's face to soothe him or her.
- Check for signs of illness.

**NEVER
NEVER
NEVER
Shake a Baby**

- Take the child for a walk.
- Lay the baby, tummy-down, across your lap; gently rub or pat his or her back.
- If you feel you are becoming angry, put the child in a safe place, like a crib, and leave the room to take a break from the crying/screaming. Check on the child every five minutes or as needed to make sure the child is okay.
- Know that it is okay to call someone you know to get help and take a break.

To help promote the prevention of shaken baby syndrome, call the North Dakota Department of Health at 800.472.2286 or 701.328.4533. Materials such as brochures and educational display exhibits are available for agencies to order.

Live in a Home Built Before 1978?

If you live in a home built before 1978, your home could contain lead paint. Lead is a metal found in paint sold before 1978. Small amounts of lead dust can poison a young child. Lead-poisoned children may suffer brain damage, have emotional problems, and have difficulty learning. Follow these steps to protect your family from lead hazards:



- Get your young children tested for lead, even if they seem healthy.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers and toys often.
- Make sure children eat healthy, low-fat foods.
- Get your home checked for lead hazards.
- Regularly clean floors, windowsills and other surfaces.
- Wipe soil off shoes before entering house.
- Talk to your landlord about fixing surfaces with peeling or chipping paint.
- Take precautions to avoid exposure to lead dust when remodeling or renovating.
- Don't use a belt sander, propane torch, high temperature heat gun, scraper or sandpaper on painted surfaces that may contain lead.
- Don't try to remove lead-based paint yourself.

Rock 'N Roller Strollers Recalled

CPSC and Dorel Juvenile Group are recalling 300,000 Rock 'N Roller baby strollers. If the stop pins are bent or missing or if the seat is not fully attached, the seat can partially detach from the frame during use and the infant occupant can be injured in a fall.

The COSCO strollers involved have seats that can be removed from the stroller frame. The strollers have a dark blue or green metal frame with four wheels on



the front and two wheels on the back. A label on the back of the frame contains one of the following model numbers: 01-654, 01-622, 01-624, 01-646 or 01-656.

The strollers were sold at Wal-Mart, Kmart, Sears, Toys "R" Us, Target, JC Penney's, Service Merchandise and other toy and children's furniture stores nationwide from April 1996 through August 2002.

Consumers should stop using the recalled strollers with detachable seats immediately and call the firm to determine how to inspect the stroller for possible replacement. For more information, consumers should call Dorel Juvenile Group at 800.711.0402.

Target Toy Trucks Recalled

CPSC and Target Corp. are recalling 25,500 Summerville Toy Trucks Sets. The components on the trucks could detach, posing a choking and sharp-point hazard to young children.

The recall includes Summerville four-piece truck sets. The multicolored trucks are about 4.5-inches long. Various types of trucks sold in the set include dump trucks, cement trucks, utility trucks, garbage trucks, box trucks, fuel trucks and tow trucks.

Continued on next page

Visit the following websites for more information about product safety and injury prevention:

www.cpsc.gov
www.health.state.nd.us

Building Blocks to Safety is published quarterly by the Injury Prevention Program, Division of Injury Prevention & Control



North Dakota Department of Health
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept 301
Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0200
800.472.2286

Terry Dwelle, M.D., State Health Officer
John Joyce, M.D., Community Health Section Chief
Mary Dasovick, Division of Injury Prevention & Control Director
Dawn Mayer and
Carol Meidinger, Editors

This newsletter can be accessed at www.ndmch.com/injury-prevention/publications.asp



Target Toy Trucks Recalled (continued)

The sets were sold at Target stores nationwide from February 2004 through May 2004. Consumers should return the recalled trucks to Target for a refund. For more information, consumers can call Target toll-free at 800.440.0680.



Target Recalls Electric Scooters

The CPSC and Target are recalling 74,811 Leoch electric scooters. Improper wiring can cause a short circuit, posing a fire hazard in the scooter. In addition, inadequate insulation may expose electrical wiring, which poses a shock hazard.



The recall involves Leoch-brand scooters that were also sold under the names E-Scooter and Red Dragon. The scooters have a seat, two wheels and footrests on each side.

Target stores nationwide sold the scooters from February 2003 through June 2004. Consumers should stop using the scooters immediately and return them to any Target store for a full refund. For more information, call Target toll-free at 800.440.0680.

Travel Lite Swings Recalled

CPSC and Graco Children's Products are recalling 140,000 Travel Lite Swings. The swing's carrying handle can fail to stay in place properly and drop or be pushed down, hitting a child in the head. Additionally, the three-point seat belt can fail to prevent a child from leaning forward or to the side.

The recalled Travel Lite portable swings have an adjustable reclining seat, a rotating handle and a canopy and include model numbers 1850JJP, 1850JGB and 1870DAL. The swings also have a serial number between 050503 and 1211103. Both the model and serial numbers can be found on a white label underneath the seat.



The swings were sold at discount, department and juvenile stores from June 2003 through June 2004. Consumers should stop using the swing immediately and contact Graco for a free repair kit. Consumers can call Graco toll-free at 800.345.4109.

Monster Rockets Recalled



The CPSC and Hasbro are recalling approximately 230,000 Super Soaker Monster Rockets. The cap on the water tank can unexpectedly and forcibly project off when it is quickly unscrewed from the tank, posing a risk of impact injuries to users or bystanders. In addition, the rocket's tail can strike a user or bystander on descent if the rocket is not fully launched.

The rocket is composed of a 7-foot inflatable mylar rocket with a plastic and foam fin section. The rocket has a blue and orange launch base with a water pressure tank attached to one leg of the base. The body of the rocket is red, white and blue with stars. The water toy has the words Monster Rocket printed on the body of the rocket.

Rockets were sold January 2004 through August 2004 at Toys "R" Us, Wal-Mart, Target, KB Toys stores and other toy retailers nationwide. Consumers should stop using the rockets immediately and contact Hasbro to receive a replacement product of equal value. Consumers can contact Hasbro toll-free at 866.487.4737.

Lead in Toy Jewelry

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and four toy jewelry importers have announced the recall of 150 million pieces of toy jewelry sold in vending machines across America. CPSC has determined that some of the toy jewelry contains dangerous levels of lead, posing a risk of lead poisoning to children. Young children sometimes mouth or swallow items like these. Lead poisoning in children is associated with behavioral problems, learning disabilities, hearing problems and growth retardation.

This toy jewelry recall involves various styles of rings, necklaces and bracelets. The rings are gold or silver colored with different designs and paint finishes with various shaped center stones. The



necklaces have a black cord or rope or gold or silver colored chains.

The toy jewelry was sold in vending machines located in malls and discount, department and grocery stores nationwide from January 2002 through June 2004.

Consumers should throw away recalled jewelry. Consumers can contact the Toy Jewelry Recall Hotline for more information about this recall at 800.441.4234.

Schwinn Bike Helmets Recalled

CPSC and Schwinn are recalling approximately 9,000 toddler bike helmets. The helmets do not comply with CPSC certification impact testing requirements. Because they don't meet CPSC certification, the helmet may not adequately protect a child's head in a crash.

The toddler helmets have SCHWINN written on the back of the helmets. A white label inside the helmets reads, lot#791913, 12-01-03 through 5-15-04. This label also contains the model number SK103, SK107 or SK108.

The helmets were sold at Wal-Mart, Target, Academy and Mills Fleet & Farms stores nationwide from January 2004 through July 2004. Consumers should return the recalled helmet to the store where purchased for a replacement or refund. For more information, consumers can contact PTI Sports at 800.515.0074.

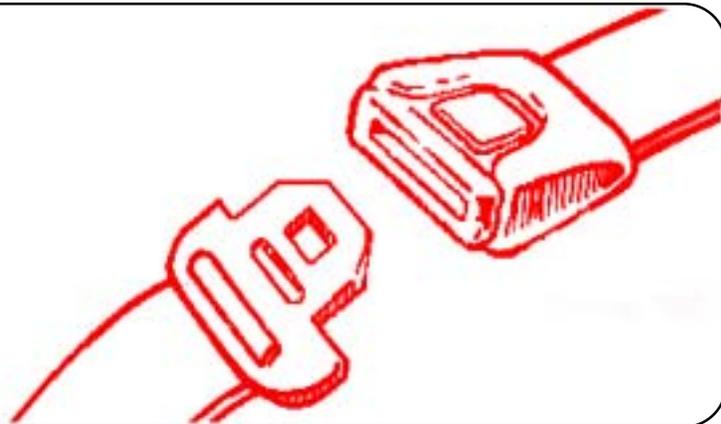


PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
BISMARCK, ND
PERMIT # 419

Division of Injury Prevention and Control
North Dakota Department of Health
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 301
Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0200
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Buckle Update



Lap/Shoulder Belts Required for Rear Center Seats

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced a final rule requiring that rear center seats in all new passenger vehicles be equipped with lap/shoulder safety belts.

All passenger vehicles will be required to comply with the new rule by 2008. NHTSA estimates that the change will result in 10 to 23 fewer highway fatalities per year and 245 to 495 fewer injuries. It comes in response to a Congressional mandate known as "Anton's Law," passed to increase child passenger safety and to encourage the use of booster seats by older children. "This rule will greatly improve safety for both children and older people," said Jeffrey W. Runge, M.D., NHTSA Administrator. "One huge advantage is that lap/shoulder belts can be used with belt-positioning booster seats, making the rear center seat the safest place for older children."



Since 1989, NHTSA has required that all rear window-side seats in new passenger vehicles be equipped with lap/shoulder belts. At this point, 23 percent of new passenger cars, along with 51 percent of new vans and light trucks (SUVs and pickups), are equipped only with lap belts for use by rear center seat passengers. Besides cars and light trucks, the new rule applies to 12- and 15-passenger vans. Side-facing seats are exempt. The rule will be phased in by manufacturers, with half of model year 2006 passenger vehicles offering the lap/shoulder safety belts, increasing to 80 percent of vehicles in model year 2007 and 100 percent in model year 2008.

The final rule can be viewed on NHTSA's website at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/rules/rulings/Anton_FRNov16.html and at www.dms.dot.gov.

Correct Use of Booster Seats

As more North Dakota children ride in booster seats, child passenger safety technicians are seeing more misuse of the boosters. The two major types of booster seat misuse include:

- **Child too small or too young for a booster seat** – Many car seat manufacturers list a lower weight limit of 30 pounds on booster seats. However, child passenger safety experts encourage parents to wait until the child is 40 pounds before graduating to a booster seat.
- **Seat belt not used correctly** – Booster seats must be used with a lap and a shoulder belt. The lap belt should be positioned low on the hips and the shoulder belt should cross the shoulder blade. If a vehicle has only lap belts, do not use a

booster seat. Consider one of the Unique Car Seat Options listed on the next page.

For more information about North Dakota's Boost, Then Buckle Project, call 800.472.2286.



BOOST, THEN BUCKLE

ND Department of Health • ND Department of Transportation

Enhancing the Safety of Power Windows

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is planning to enhance the safety of power window switches and prevent child deaths and injuries caused by the inadvertent closing of car windows.

While the agency's upgraded power window standard does not specify a particular design, it will require that all passenger vehicles manufactured for sale in the United States be equipped with a safer switch.

A regulation will prohibit non-recessed "rocker" or "toggle" switches that can be unintentionally activated by a small child playing in a car. It will prevent the tragedy of a child's head or limb being caught in a power window. Most manufacturers are expected to comply with the new rule through the use of recessed switches, or "pull up-push down" switches that must be lifted to close the window.

A small but persistent number of injuries and fatalities occur each year when young children inadvertently close power windows

on themselves by leaning against a window's switch or by kneeling or standing on it.

Safer switches will be mandated in cars, vans, pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles made for sale in the United States on or after Oct. 1, 2008.

The final amendment to the NHTSA rule can be accessed by visiting the agency's website: http://www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/rulings/safety_switch/SaferSwitchesFinalRule.html.



Unique Car Seat Options

Most forward-facing car seats with harness systems can be used until a child weighs 40 pounds. When a child reaches 40 pounds, he or she often graduates to a belt-positioning booster seat, using both the lap and shoulder seat belt.

Many parents and caregivers do not realize that some car seats may be used with a harness at weights higher than 40 pounds. Caregivers should consider a harnessed car seat over a booster seat for the following reasons:

- Vehicle has lap-only seat belts. A booster seat needs both lap and shoulder belts.

- Child is too young or immature for a booster seat, yet weighs more than 40 pounds.
- Child won't stay seated in the vehicle in just a seat belt or booster seat.
- Parent prefers a harness system over the booster seat and seat belt.

While not readily available in many retail outlets, the car seats listed below have unique maximum weight limits and allow children to ride in a harness longer. Seats with harnesses currently available on the market for children who weigh more than 40 pounds are listed in the following table:

<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Product Name</u>	<u>Weight/Heights</u>	<u>Available at:</u>
Britax	Husky	22 to 80 pounds	Internet or 888.427.4829
Britax	Marathon	20 to 65 pounds 18 to 49 inches in height	Internet or 888.427.4829
Britax	Wizard	20 to 65 pounds Up to 49 inches in height	Internet or 888.427.4829
Car Seat Specialty	Airway (Combi)	22 to 50 pounds 29 to 48 inches in height	Internet or 877.912.1313
Dorel/Safety 1st	Apex (available in Jan)	20 to 65 pounds Height not known	Internet, stores or 800.544.1108
E-Z-Products	86-Y Universal Vest	40 to 168 pounds	Internet or 800.323.6598

Always read and follow the manufacturer's instructions.