Baby Safety

A warm bath, lullaby and bedtime stories are staples in your child’s nighttime routine. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) urges parents and caregivers to add a safe sleep environment to the daily routine of placing baby to sleep.

CPSC staff is aware of 97 crib-related deaths from 2002 through 2004:

- About half of the deaths were in cribs containing pillows, quilts and other bedding. About half of these were due to suffocation when infants ended up face down on pillows or face down in a crib with pillows, quilts and other bedding.
- Thirty percent of crib-related deaths were attributed to entrapment between components of old cribs that were in bad condition, with broken or missing parts or loose hardware, and entrapment in spaces generated between the sides of a crib and an poorly fitting mattress.
- The remainder of the deaths were associated with accessories situated in or around the crib (such as window cords or curtain tie backs), falls out of cribs, alterations made to cribs, or entrapment when the child became wedged between the crib and other furniture or a wall.

As CPSC works to remove defective products from the marketplace, parents and caregivers are being asked to take action, as well. The CPSC is urging parents to follow these guidelines:

- Infants can strangle to death if their bodies pass through gaps between loose components, broken slats and other parts of the crib and their head and neck become entrapped in the space.
- Do not use old, broken or modified cribs.
- Regularly tighten hardware to keep sides firm.
- Infants can suffocate in spaces between the sides of the crib and poorly fitting mattress; never allow a gap larger than two fingers at any point between the sides of the crib and the mattress.
- Never place a crib near a window with blind or curtain cords; infants can strangle on curtain or blind cords.
- Properly set up play yards according to manufacturers’ directions. Only use the mattress provided with the play yard. Do not add extra mattresses, pillows or cushions to the play yard, which can cause a suffocation hazard for infants.
- Routinely check nursery products against CPSC recall lists and remove recalled products from your home.
- Sign up for automatic e-mail recall notifications at www.cpsc.gov.
Cinderella Ride-on Cars Recalled

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Dumar International USA are recalling 64,000 Cinderella 12-volt electric ride-on vehicles. The wires under the hood of the car and/or in the battery compartment under the seat can short circuit, posing a fire burn hazard to children riding in the car. CPSC and the firm have received 40 reports of incidents of the toy car’s wires overheating.

The electric ride-on toy resembles the Pontiac Solstice. It is light blue and has Cinderella graphics on the front and the sides. The wheels, steering wheel and two seats are pink.

Wal-Mart stores nationwide sold the vehicles from August 2005 through February 2006. Consumers should take the recalled toy cars away from children and contact Dumar International for a free retrofit kit, including a new battery. For more information, contact Dumar at 866.424.0500.

Crib Toys Pose a Choking Hazard

CPSC and Kids II Inc. are recalling 15,000 Baby Einstein Baby Neptune Soothing Seascape crib toys. The anchors that hold the straps to the back of the turtle can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.

The crib toy is a plastic molded turtle with a toy aquarium body that has woven fabric straps that attach to the side rails of a crib. Model number 30858 is printed on the label on the leg of the turtle.

The toy was sold at discount and department stores and online retailers nationwide from November 2007 through January 2008. Consumers should stop using the recalled crib toys and contact Kids II at 866.203.6788 to receive a replacement toy.

Bike Trailers Recalled

CPSC and Pacific Cycle Inc. are recalling the following bike trailers:

- InStep Pathfinder
- Schwinn Run About
- Schwinn Mongoose
- Schwinn Alley cat

Seven thousand trailers are being recalled because the coupler connecting the children’s trailer bike to the adult’s bicycle has welds that can fail, resulting in a fall and posing a fall hazard to children. The recall includes models 12-PF250, 13-SC250, 13-SC350 and M5101. The model number is located on the lower seat tube of the frame.

The trailers were sold at bicycle stores and retailers nationwide from January 2007 through August 2007. Consumers should stop using the trailer bicycle and contact the firm at 877.564.2261 for a free repair kit.

Wagons Recalled

CPSC and Tricam Industries Inc. are recalling 15,000 metal toy wagons. The surface paint on the wagon bucket contains excessive levels of lead, violating the federal lead paint standard.

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

- www.cpsc.gov
- www.ndhealth.gov

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
Mary Dasovick, Division of Injury Prevention & Control Director
Dawn Mayer, Editor
Carol Meidinger, Editor

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Wagons Recalled (continued)
The recall involves the red metal wagon model MH1250. The wagon has a red steel bucket, a black handle, a black steel axle support and black tires.

The wagons were sold at Tractor Supply Company Stores nationwide from September 2002 through November 2007. Consumers should stop using the tractor and contact Tricam at 800.867.6763 for instructions about how to return the wagon and obtain a refund.

Trek Bicycles Recalled
CPSC and Trek Bicycle Corp. are recalling 49,000 Trek MT220 girls’ bicycles. The bicycle’s frame can break during use, causing the rider to lose control and suffer injuries. Trek has received 13 reports of frames breaking, including four minor injuries.

The bike was sold at authorized Trek dealers nationwide from April 2004 through June 2007. Consumers should stop using the recalled bike and return it to a Trek dealer for a free replacement MT220 girls bicycle or a $100 discount on a different size Trek bicycle. For more information, consumers should contact Trek at 800.373.4594.

Infant Rattles Recalled
CPSC and Infantino LLC are recalling 20,000 Lamb Grabby Rattles. The tail-piece on the rattles can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children. Infantino has received eight reports of the tail piece on the rattle detaching. No injuries have been reported.

The recalled rattles are shaped like a lamb with an Infantino elliptical-shaped logo stamped on the front right foot of the lamb. Only rattles with date code 0907 printed on the back of the left ear of the lamb are included in the recall.

Wal-Mart, Babies “R” Us and other specialty stores nationwide sold the rattles from September 2007 through February 2008. Consumers should stop using the rattle and contact Infantino at 888.808.3111 for a replacement rattle or a product of equal value.

Mark your calendar!
Injury Prevention and Control Conference “Preventing and Responding to Injuries”
October 28-30, 2008
Best Western Seven Seas
Mandan, North Dakota
Watch future newsletter for more information.

Cranium Games Recalled
CPSC and Cranium Inc. are recalling 38,000 Cranium Cadoo Board games. The surface paint on the die contains excessive levels of lead, violating the federal lead paint standard. Only the die found in Cranium Cadoo board games with lot numbers 2007195 through 2007244 are included in the recall. The seven-digit lot number is printed under the plastic tray on the bottom half of the box.

The following stores sold Cranium Cadoo nationwide from October 2007 through January 2008: Fred Meyer, Kmart, Wal-Mart and specialty game stores. Consumers should dispose of the die and contact Cranium Inc. at 877.272.6486 to receive a free replacement die.
CPSC and Jetmax International LTD are recalling about 36,000 boys’ and girls’ storage racks with canvas totes. The storage rack can tip over, posing an entrapment and suffocation hazard to young children. The CPSC has received one report of a death involving an 8-month-old boy who was asphyxiated after he pulled on the storage rack and it fell over on him. The top rail landed on the infants neck.

The storage rack is wooden with three levels and nine removable canvas totes. The storage rack was sold in natural-color wood with red, yellow, green and navy canvas totes and in white-colored wood with pink, yellow, lime and purple canvas totes.

Wal-Mart sold the storage rack under the brand “Home trend Kids 9 Canvas Bin Boy’s and Girl’s Organizers.” They were sold from August 2004 through July 2005. Ollie’s stores nationwide sold the racks from July 2006 through June 2007. Consumers should stop using the rack and contact Jetmax International at 800.689.2168 to receive a free repair kit that adds stability to the base.
The Buckle Update

Child Safety Seat Ease-of-Use Ratings

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recently announced a new five-star government rating system that grades car safety seats on how easy they are to use and install. Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters said, “Even the safest car seat can’t protect a child if it isn’t installed correctly.”

The rating system provides information that helps consumers identify features that affect how easy a car seat is to use. It makes it easier to compare products and determine which car seat is easiest for their daily routines. The system rates car seats in the following categories:

- **Evaluation of labels**: Examines the content and clarity of labeling.
- **Evaluation of instructions**: Examines the content and clarity of the instruction manual.
- **Securing the Child**: Examines features that make it easier to secure a child in the car seat.
- **Vehicle Installation**: Examines features that relate to installing the child restraint in a vehicle.

It is important for consumers to know that the Ease-of-Use Rating System DOES NOT measure safety or performance of child restraints in a crash. All child restraints sold in the United States already are required to meet federal safety standards to provide crash protection for children.

For more information on NHTSA’s Ease-of-Use Rating System, go to www.nhtsa.gov.

Chrysler and Dodge Swivel N’Go Vehicle Seats

The 2008 Chrysler Town and Country and Dodge Grand Caravan minivans have an optional new seating configuration, Swivel N’Go, which includes two captain chairs in the second row that can be faced backwards. The vans also have a table that can be installed between the rear-facing captain chairs and the third-row bench seat.

Child restraints and booster seats should never be installed when the vehicle seats are rear-facing. This is explained clearly in the child restraint section of the owner’s manual, as well as in the Swivel N’Go feature section. Additionally, a large warning label on the base of the vehicle seat is visible when the seat is rotated to face the rear.

Chrysler says the vehicle seats have been tested extensively to ensure that adult occupants are protected adequately while in the rear-facing position.

*Source: Safe Ride News, November/December 2007*
Evenflo Recalls Discovery Infant Seat

Evenflo is recalling about 1 million Discovery Infant Car Seat models 390, 391, 534 and 525 made since April 2005. Based on recent laboratory tests conducted by Evenflo and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the car seat potentially could become separated from its base in high-impact side collisions.

As a precautionary measure, Evenflo is providing owners of the affected models with a free supplemental dual-hook fastener that has been tested and proven to be effective in preventing detachment of the seat from its base. To order the fasteners, owners should call Evenflo at 800.356.2229 or go to www.evenflo.com/Discovery. Orders will arrive in about three to four weeks. In the meantime, Evenflo has indicated consumers may continue using their Discovery infant car seats with or without its base.

Graco Snug Ride Recalled

Graco Children’s Products Inc. voluntarily has recalled some of its SnugRide infant car seats made from Aug. 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007, because of a potential choking hazard related to the seat pad. According to Graco, the back of the seat pad may pull away from the seams in an area reachable to the child occupant, exposing the pad filling and posing a potential choking hazard. The recall is only for stand-alone SnugRides and not those sold as part of a travel system.

Owners of the affected models (listed below) should contact Graco at 800.345.4109 or visit www.gracobaby.com to order a free replacement cover.

8609FOF2, 8609FOF3, 8616FOF2, 8616FOF3, 8643DDH2, 8643DDH3, 8643CDR2, 8643DH03, 8643SUP2, 8643SUP3, 8643JOS2, 8643JOS3, 8643MDW3, 8643PWC3, 8643SFJ3, 8645FMT2, 8645FMT3, 8645GLM3, 8645GLN3, 8645HEM2, 8645HEM3, 8645MYC2, 8646SML3, 8645MYC3, 8645MRTG3, 8645PKR2, 8645SNY2, 8646SND2, 8645THR2, 8645THR3, 8646FIE2, 8646FIE3, 8646GRT3 and 8646RRY3.

Because the crash performance of the car seat is not affected, owners should continue to use the SnugRide. Graco recommends that owners examine the seat pad routinely and not wash the pad while waiting for the replacement cover.

Child Passenger Safety Certification Courses Scheduled

The North Dakota Department of Health is sponsoring four upcoming courses to certify individuals as child passenger safety technicians. The classes provide participants with the technical skills and knowledge to assist families with correct use of their child restraints. Courses will be held:

- April 28 through May 1 — Bismarck
- May 19 through 22 — Grand Forks
- June 23 through 26 — Fargo
- August 11 through 14 — Minot

For more information, contact Dawn Mayer, North Dakota Department of Health, at drmayer@nd.gov or 800.472.2286