



Children's Toy and Gift Safety

- ♦ Select toys suited to the age and interests of the child.
- ♦ Remember that smaller children will try to play with toys of older siblings and friends, so choose older children's toys with the younger child in mind as well.
- ♦ Read instructions carefully before allowing your child to play with toys.
- ♦ Avoid toys for younger children that must be plugged into an electrical outlet.
- ♦ Avoid choking or strangulation risks:
 - Toys for children age 3 or under should not be less than 1 1/4 inches in diameter, and 2 1/4 inches long - no smaller than a toilet tissue tube diameter.
 - Get rid of uninflated or popped balloons, and plastic wrap or packaging.
 - Remove ribbons and strings.
 - Strings on pull toys should be shorter than 12 inches.
 - Check toys for broken or damaged parts.
- ♦ Immediately dispose of, or remove to a safe place opened gift wrappings, ribbons, and bows.



Office of Environment, Safety and Health
POC: Claudia Beach, 301-603-9826 or Claudia.Beach@eh.doe.gov