

REITER & WALSH, P.C.



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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.