

SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN FROM COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERS

Top Tips- WATER SAFETY

Water basics:

- Always supervise children in and around water. Never allow them to be near water alone.
- Teach young children how to swim.

At the pool:

- Install four-sided isolation fencing at least 5 feet high, equipped with self-closing and self-latching gates, around home swimming pools.
- Keep rescue equipment, a telephone and emergency numbers by the pool.

In open water:

- Always wear a CSA approved life jacket around oceans, rivers or lakes or when participating in water sports.

Top Tips – PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Before play:

- Ensure that playground equipment is age-appropriate and properly maintained. Look for adequate surfacing under equipment and loose or broken screws on equipment itself.
- Remove hood and neck drawstrings from all children's outerwear to avoid strangulation hazards.
- Become trained in emergency first aid and CPR.

During play:

- Actively supervise children on playgrounds.
- Teach children proper playground behavior: no pushing, shoving or crowding.

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- Keep toddlers under age 5 in a separate play area, fenced off from equipment designed for bigger kids.

Top Tips - SPORTS

Preparing for sports activity:

- Make sure that children play games on appropriate surfaces and areas; never play around broken glass or downed power lines.
- Don't play games in the street or near busy intersections.

During sports activity:

- Always ensure children wear appropriate protective gear for the activity.
- Always actively supervise your child during play

Top Tips

Before riding or wheeling:

- Every child (whether riding a tricycle or bike or as a passenger on an adult's bike) must wear a well-fitting helmet. The helmet should bear a sticker saying it meets standards set by the CONSUMER SAFETY ASSOCIATION.
- Always purchase tricycles and bicycles that are the right size for the child.
- Always take the child to the store when purchasing a helmet to ensure proper fit.

During riding or wheeling:

- Always supervise your children.
- Never allow children to ride in the street.
- Do not let children wear long or loose clothing (including dresses and wide-legged pants) that can get caught in bike chains or wheel spokes.

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- Don't allow children to ride when it's dark.