

FACTS ON...

Poison Look-alikes in the Home

*A guide
for those who
work with
families*



A poison is anything that can make you sick if you swallow it, taste it, smell it, or get it on your skin or in your eye. It is important to be aware of the not-so-obvious poisoning hazards that could be found in the home that might be confusing to children; potentially toxic products that have similar colour, texture or packaging as safe products.

The age group most hospitalized due to unintentional poisonings is 0-5 years. Most poisoning calls received by the IWK Regional Poison Centre are for children age 1-3 years.

*Child Safety Link would like to share the following information
on what parents and caregivers can do to help prevent a look-alike poisoning in the home:*

- Keep all potential poisons locked up high, and out of reach of children.
- Keep products in their original containers.
- Do not remove labels from containers; labels may include important safety information.
- Never store potential poisons near food.
- Keep purses and coats out of reach of children, as they could contain potential poisons.

Inform caregivers of the following if they think their child may have been poisoned:

- Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island residents should call the IWK Regional Poison Centre at 1-800-565-8161.
 - New Brunswick residents should call 911.

*****Please see the other side of this page
for some examples of common household poison look-alikes
(poisoning hazards that have a similar colour, texture or packaging as safe products).**



For more information on children's injury prevention topics, visit www.childsafetylink.ca or call 1-866-288-1388 (toll-free in the Maritimes)



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**ARE ANY OF THESE POTENTIALLY
DANGEROUS LOOK-ALIKES IN YOUR HOME?**



window cleaner, sports drink and mouthwash



candy and 3-volt button batteries



regular chewing gum and nicotine chewing gum



detergent packet and gummy candies



e-cigarette and lip gloss



marshmallows and bleach laundry packets

