Choking on toys can cause death in young children.

Tips for choosing safe toys:

• Make sure the toy meets national safety standards by looking for the letters “ASTM.” These letters show the toy has been tested for normal intended use and reasonable foreseeable abuse.

• Read toy instructions carefully.

• Obey the manufacturer age recommendations.

• Do not give toys with small parts to young children.

• Have separate play areas for young children so that they don’t have access to older siblings’ toys with small parts.

• Watch for toys with strings, straps or cords because these could wrap around a child’s neck.

• Be careful of toys that use electricity.

• Be aware of toys with sharp points or edges.

• Throw away damaged toys.
The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends the following toys for each age group:

**Newborn to 1 year**
- Large blocks of wood or plastic
- Busy boards
- Rattles

**1-2 years old**
- Nesting blocks
- Cloth or plastic books with large pictures
- Kiddy cars

**2-5 years old**
- Simple puzzles
- Dress-up clothes
- Outdoor toys, including swing sets

**5-9 years old**
- Card games
- Jump rope
- Basketball, soccer ball

**10-14 years old**
- Computer
- Board games
- Hobby collections
Follow these tips to celebrate holidays safely.

- Consider buying a fire-resistant artificial tree.
- Set up fresh trees away from heat sources such as vents and fireplaces.
- Decorate trees using only UL-approved lights and cords.
- Turn off tree lights when you go to sleep or leave home.
- Keep small ornaments and other decorations out of reach of small children.
- Securely anchor all hanging decorations.
- Do not obstruct handrails.
- Keep poisonous plants out of reach.
- Keep hard food and candies out of reach.
- Do not place candles near draperies or anything that might easily catch fire.
- Open the flue in your fireplace before lighting a fire.
- After building a fire, always use a screen.
- Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.
- Never leave young children unattended.

UK HealthCare
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Safe Kids
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