

## Keeping Kids Safe this Holiday Season.....

### 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 donot 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 board
- Rattles

#### 1-2 year olds

- Nesting blocks
- Cloth or plastic books with large pictures
- Kiddy cars

#### 2-5 year olds

- Simple puzzles
- Dress-up clothes
- Outdoor toys

#### 5-9 year olds

- Card games

- Jump rope
- Basketball, soccer ball

10-14 year olds

- 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 candles 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.***

**For additional information, contact the Safe Kids Fayette County office at 859-323-1153 or visit our website at**

**[www.safekidsfayettecounty.com](http://www.safekidsfayettecounty.com).**

**We can also be found on Facebook.**