

Playing Safe Checklist

Part of preventing problems is to make sure that your child is safe. Here are some safe things your child can do in different parts of your home.

Kitchen:

Let your child play in a low drawer and let that be your child's drawer. Put safe things, such as pots, pans, and cartons in that drawer. They will have something safe to do when you're working in the kitchen.

Bathroom:

Always supervise children around a bathtub when there's water in it. Put a low, safe stool in the bathroom for your child. Let them use it when they are learning to wash their hands. They can also use it when they brush their teeth.

Bedroom or Livingroom:

Make some low shelves for your child. You can use colorful plastic crates to hold the shelves. Use these shelves to store your child's toys. They'll be able to see the toys here and will want to play with them more.

Use a shoebox to store your child's small toys. Draw or cut out a picture of the toys and glue it to the shoebox. Your child will learn that all the farm animals will go in the box with the picture of the farm animals on it. The blocks will go in the box with the picture of the blocks on it.

When your child no longer puts things in her mouth, have a basket of magazines and colorful paper your child can use. Let them tear them, cut them, or color them. These magazines are just for your child. Put up a low hook with a blunt, plastic end. Your child can hang up their coat or sweater there.

Put a basket in your child's room. Teach them to put their dirty clothes in the basket.