

Your child is becoming increasingly independent and adventurous, often exploring and climbing on objects. At this stage, children have little understanding of danger and require constant supervision.



AT HOME

Setting up your home safely

- Store button batteries and products containing them up high out of reach of children and ensure battery compartments are secure. If you suspect a child has ingested a button battery, call the **Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26** immediately.
- Make sure the hot water delivery temperature for your bathroom taps is set to 50°C and smoke alarms are installed throughout your home. Ensure your child can not reach hot cooking pots, kettles or heaters and that hot drinks are kept out of reach.
- Create a fire escape plan and practice regularly with your children.
- Teach your child the **'stop, drop, cover and roll'** drill if their clothes catch on fire and the **'crawl down low and go, go, go'** drill if they are caught in a fire.
- If your child sustains a burn or scald, remove clothing and nappies from the affected area and immediately run the affected area under cool running water for 20 minutes. Never use ice, butter or oil on the burn.
- Place brightly coloured stickers on doors and windows at the child's head height so they can see there is glass in their path.
- Store poisons (e.g. cleaning products, pesticides, medications, e-cigarette devices and e-liquids) and handbags up high and out of reach of children. If you think a child has ingested a poison, immediately call the **Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26**.
- Complete CPR and first aid training and update these skills regularly. Visit kidsafevic.com.au for more information on first aid. Teach children how to dial Triple Zero in an emergency.



AT PLAY

Reduce the risk of injury from toys and playground equipment

- Choose play equipment that meets Australian Standards and that is suitable for your child's age, size and stage of development.
- Install playground equipment away from hazards such as hard paths and garden edging, and make sure soft fall surfacing like tanbark is put around and under equipment to a minimum depth of 30cm.
- Trampolines are not recommended for children under 6 years old.
- Choose toys that are suitable for your child's age and stage of development.
- Be aware of toys with magnets and button batteries, both which pose an injury hazard.

Reduce the risk of drowning

- Safety barriers are required for all pools and spas with a depth greater than 30cm. Regularly check and maintain your barrier and gate to ensure they are in proper working order.
- Teach your child basic water awareness and enrol them in swimming lessons.
- Always keep children within arm's reach when they are in or around water.

Keeping children safe around animals

- Supervise your child closely when they are playing and interacting with animals. If you can't supervise, make sure they are separated with appropriate barriers.



OUT AND ABOUT

Keeping children safe in the car

- Never leave children unattended in the car. The temperature inside a car can be 20 – 30° hotter than outside.
- Use an approved forward-facing child restraint or an approved booster seat that is correctly fitted to the vehicle, and adjusted to fit them properly.
- Ensure your child stays in their current restraint until they have outgrown the size limit. Children aren't ready to move out of a booster seat until they can pass the **5 step test** – most children won't pass this test until they are around 10-12 years old.
- Have a professional install or check your child car restraint or booster seat. Our Safe Seats, Safe Kids program uses experienced, accredited fitters to provide free fitting and checking days across Victoria – visit safeseatssafekids.com.au to book your appointment.

Making your driveway Kidsafe

- Create safe play areas for your children away from driveways and traffic.
- Always supervise children around cars and driveways.
- Always walk around the car and check before moving it.



Keeping children safe around roads and on wheels

- Hold your child's hand near traffic and teach them safe pedestrian behaviours such as **'Stop, Look, Listen and Think.'**
- Teach your child to follow traffic rules by setting a good example.
- A correctly fitted and secured helmet should always be worn when riding a tricycle, scooter, bicycle or any other wheeled device. Children should also wear wrist guards, elbow and knee pads when skating or scooting.



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