

PROTECT YOUR KIDS

YOUR KIDS >> WHAT TO KNOW >> WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHERE KIDS PLAY AND LEARN

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What to look for where kids play and learn

If your child's school or day-care center was built before 1978, look around the inside and outside of the facility for lead hazards.

Make sure to look at:

- Interior painted areas. Look to see if the paint is cracking, chipping or peeling.
- Exterior painted areas. Check exterior paint as well; it can flake off and contaminate nearby soil where children may play.
- Surrounding areas. Be sure there are no large structures nearby with peeling or flaking paint that could contaminate the soil around play areas.
- Cleaning practices. Make sure the staff washes any pacifiers, toys or bottles that fall on the floor. Also, make sure that the staff has the children wash their hands thoroughly after playing outside and before eating or sleeping.
- Indoor play areas. Look to see if areas where children play are dust-free and clean.
- Playground equipment. Older equipment can contain lead-based paint.
- Check yards and playgrounds.
- Lead from deteriorating paint on the exterior of buildings and from current and past industrial and other sources (for example, lead in gasoline) can get into the soil in yards and playgrounds..
- Artificial turf and playground surfaces made from shredded rubber can contain lead.

FIND: GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS**FIND: GUIDELINES FOR DAY-CARE CENTERS**

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