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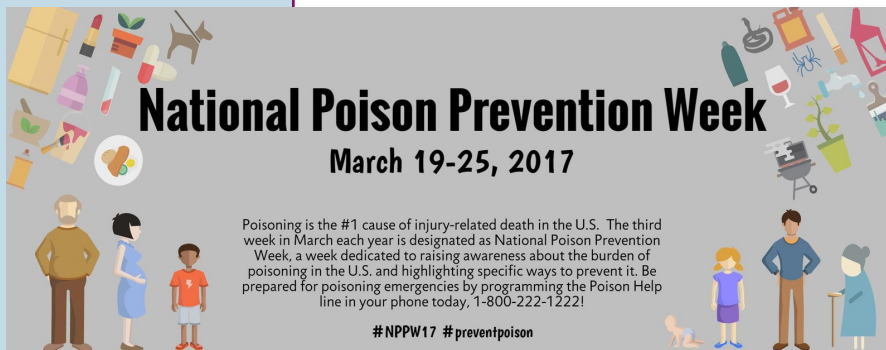
Quality Care For Kids

A newsletter for Scott County Child Care Providers

By Heidi Hotvedt, RN

MARCH 2017

Poison Prevention Week March 19-25



Every 11 seconds, nationally, a poison control center is contacted for a potential poisoning. Over half of all calls are for children and most often are a result of ingestion. In Iowa, poisoning is the leading cause of hospital-admitted injuries for children age one year to 4 years old.

Poisoning can be prevented! Per Iowa DHS child care licensing and

Call your Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC) if you have any questions about child health and safety, or any special training needs.



www.earlychildhoodiowa.org

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registration requirements, all poisons, toxic and unsafe materials, such as cleaning materials, detergents, pesticides, health and beauty aids and medications should be stored out of reach and inaccessible to children. Caring For Our Children National Health and Safety Performance Standards states that when not in active use, all chemicals used inside or outside should be stored in a safe and secure manner in a locked room or cabinet, fitted with a child-resistant opening device, inaccessible to children, and separate from stored medications and food. Emergency or rescue medications (like asthma inhalers, Epinephrine pens, etc.) should be inaccessible but not locked so that it is readily accessible to be administered by child care staff. For more information about poisoning prevention or to order or download free materials go to <http://www.iowapoisson.org/>

Developmental Milestones

The early years of a child's life are very important for his or her health and development. Healthy development means that children of all abilities, including those with special health care needs, are able to grow up where their social, emotional and educational needs are met. Children reach milestones in how they play, learn, speak, behave, and move. Children develop at their own pace, so it's impossible to tell exactly when a child will learn a given skill. However as an early care provider you are a resource for parents when there are concerns about a child's development.

To raise awareness about developmental milestones and the importance of identifying them and getting help early, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers free information and tools for parents, health care professionals, and early care providers through its *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* campaign. Research has shown that early intervention is key to helping a child reach his or her full potential. *Learn the Signs, Act Early.* has free materials available to:

- Help you track and celebrate each child's developmental milestones
- Help you communicate with parents about development
- Provide guidance on discussing developmental concerns
- Help parents know what milestones to expect next.

For more information and for free materials go to <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>. If you have questions about developmental screening contact your CCNC.