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# Quality Care For Kids

A newsletter for Scott County  
Child Care Providers

Written by Stacy Kraft, RN BSN

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#### BUTTON BATTERY DANGERS

Button batteries are in products such as:

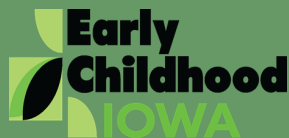
- KEYLESS ENTRY REMOTES
- WIRELESS GAME CONTROLS
- REMOTE CONTROLS
- TOYS
- DIGITAL SCALES
- DIGITAL THERMOMETERS
- WATCHES
- MUSICAL GREETING CARDS
- CALCULATORS
- FLASHING JEWELRY AND SHOES

A CHILD CAN SWALLOW A BUTTON BATTERY AND SUFFER DANGEROUS CHEMICAL BURNS IN AS LITTLE AS TWO HOURS. DO NOT LEAVE PRODUCTS WITH ACCESSIBLE BUTTON BATTERIES WITHIN REACH OF CHILDREN.

WWW.CPSC.GOV



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



<https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/>

The Child Care Nurse Consultant Program is funded by



## Holiday Safety

The holidays are an exciting and busy time of year, however, they can also pose many hazards to children. When preparing to celebrate the holidays, keep the following things in mind to help keep the children you care for safe.

1. Keep trees on a flat surface, with height evenly distributed. Children are naturally drawn to the lights and decorations, causing them to touch and pull at the items on the tree. Avoid using breakable ornaments and if in use keep them up and out of reach of children.
2. Keep poisonous plants out of areas accessible to children, including Holly (especially the berries), Poinsettias, Mistletoe, Jerusalem Cherry and Bittersweet. For a list of non-poisonous plants safe around children go to <http://www.iowapoisn.org/prevention/fall--winter-precautions/winter-holidays/holiday-plants/> If an accidental ingestion occurs, call the Poison Control Center at **800-222-1222**.
3. Be aware of devices and decorations with button batteries. Button batteries are a choking and ingestion hazard to children so keep them out of reach of children!
4. Use power strips with a circuit breaker and avoid plugging in too many items. Keep all cords out of reach of children.
5. Turn decorative lights off when not home or in the building. Regularly check for frayed or exposed wires and loose connections. The State Fire Marshall office includes the following for safety with lights:
  - Holiday lights shall be Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) approved as they have been tested to meet safety standards.
  - Lights should be plugged directly into the wall. No extension cords!
  - Lights should not be hung from the sprinkler heads or sprinkler system pipes.
  - Lights must be at least 18 inches away from all sprinkler heads.
  - Lights should not obstruct any exit path.

For more information regarding keeping children safe during the holidays, visit the Safe Kids Worldwide website at <https://www.safekids.org/holiday-safety-tips>

## Reduce the Spread of Illness

You can help reduce the spread of illness by following these simple precautions:

1. Cover your cough and sneezes. Model this for children and they learn to do the same!
2. Wash your hands frequently and scrub for 20 seconds.
3. Stay home and keep kids home when sick.
4. Clean, disinfect and sanitize to help reduce the spread of germs.

For free "Cover Your Cough" posters go to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/actions-prevent-flu.htm> Healthy Child Care Iowa (HCCI) has handwashing posters available to print for free. You can find them at <https://www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci/products>