Peeling Lead Paint Turns Into Poisonous Dust

5 Simple Ways to Protect Your Child

Lead Can Cause Learning Problems

Lead is a poison often found in old paint. Lead paint, and the dust it turns into, is the most common cause of lead poisoning. It's especially dangerous for young children. Lead can cause learning and behavior problems.

Lead dust from peeling paint can land on window sills, floors, and toys. When children play on the floor and put their hands and toys in their mouths, they can swallow lead dust.

Sometimes foods and spices, medicines, clay pots and dishes, cosmetics, and toys from other countries can contain lead.

Most lead-poisoned children do not look or feel sick. A blood test is the only way to know for sure if your child has lead poisoning.

5 Simple Ways to Protect Your Child From Lead Poisoning

1. Report peeling paint to your landlord. If your landlord doesn't fix it, call 311.
2. Remind your doctor to test your child for lead poisoning at ages 1 and 2. Ask the doctor about testing older children.
3. Wash floors, window sills, hands, toys, and pacifiers often.
4. Don't use foods and spices, medicines, clay pots and dishes, cosmetics, and toys from other countries. They may contain lead.
5. Use only cold tap water to make baby formula and for drinking and cooking. (Run the water for a few minutes first.)

Landlords must fix peeling paint.
It's the law.

Call 311 for information.

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