Lead Hazards in Some Holiday Toys and Toy Jewelry

Protect children from potential lead hazards in some holiday toys and toy jewelry.

Many children get toys and toy jewelry as gifts during the holiday season but some toys may contain lead hazards. Lead is invisible to the naked eye and has no smell.

Children may be exposed to lead by simply handling toys normally. It is normal for toddlers and infants to put toys, fingers, and other objects in their mouths. They may also be exposed to lead this way.

Lead in Toys
Protect children from exposure to lead in metal and plastic toys, especially imported toys, antique toys, and toy jewelry.

Toys imported into the United States and antique toys and collectibles often contain lead. To reduce children’s risk for exposure, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issues recalls of toys which could potentially expose children to lead.

Lead in Toy Jewelry
Just wearing toy jewelry which contains lead will not cause children to have a high level of lead in their blood. However, chewing or sucking on the jewelry will.

Make sure which children in your home do not have access to jewelry or other items which may contain lead. A child can get lead poisoning if he or she swallows or puts jewelry containing lead in his or her mouth.