



Children's Jewellery Containing Lead

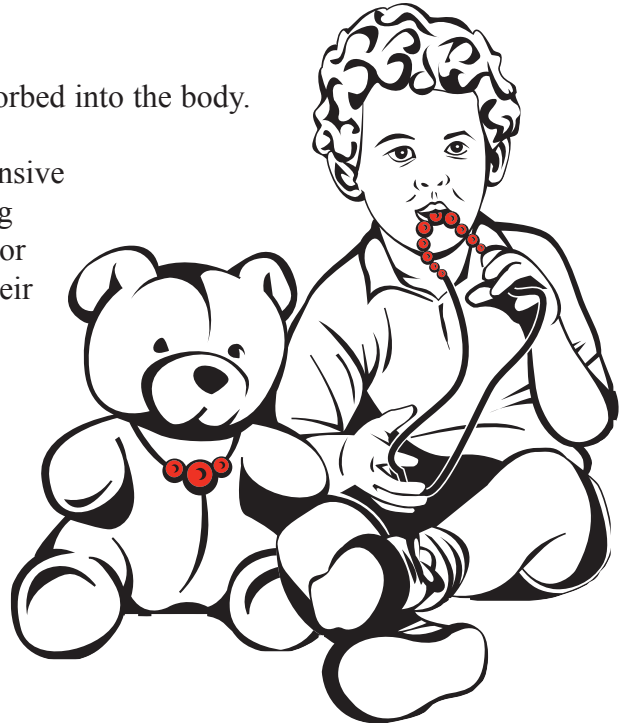
DANGER OF POISONING

Lead is a soft, heavy metal which is poisonous when absorbed into the body.

Lead is often used to make jewellery because it is inexpensive and easy to shape and mold. Wearing jewellery containing lead does not cause harm, but children sucking, chewing or swallowing this type of jewellery can cause damage to their bodies, especially to their nervous system. While some jewellery may have paint or a top coating, this does not make the jewellery safer for children because the coating can be chewed or worn off.

Lead in jewellery and other products may look different from pure lead, depending on how much lead is in the product. Items that are made with a high percentage of lead are greyish in colour, heavy for their size and may leave a grey mark when rubbed against a piece of white paper if the lead is not coated.

In Canada, it is illegal to import, advertise or sell jewellery which contains more than 600 milligrams of lead per kilogram of metal.



Safety Tips

- Check your child's jewellery. If you suspect it may contain lead, throw it out in your regular household waste.
- Do not give young children adult jewellery to wear or play with; it may have lead.
- Do not allow children to suck or chew on any jewellery.
- If your child has sucked or chewed regularly on jewellery which you think may contain lead, ask your doctor to test your child's blood for lead.

For more information, contact Product Safety, Health Canada:

1-866-662-0666

