

LEAD IS A POISON!

Get the facts!

Lead is a metal that can harm children when it gets into their bodies. Lead can be found in dust, air, water, soil, and in some products used in and around our homes. When lead paint in your house cracks or peels, it can drop chips or make lead dust.

Get your child tested!

- A blood test is the only sure way to know if your child has lead poisoning.
- A child with lead poisoning usually does not look or feel sick.
- Children under the age of six are at the highest risk for lead poisoning because they often put their hands in their mouths, raising their chances of swallowing lead dust and paint chips containing lead.
- Lead poisoning can damage the kidneys, liver, and red blood cells. It can also cause slowed development, learning or behavior problems, lower IQ, hearing loss, and restlessness.



What if a blood test shows that your child has lead poisoning?

If your doctor finds an elevated (high) blood lead level (equal to or over 5 micrograms lead per deciliter of blood), the Rockland County Department of Health is notified, and provides:

- Education about how to reduce your child's exposure to lead.
- Free home inspection with an x-ray fluorescence lead detector and family interview to look for sources of lead.
- Free lead poisoning prevention products.
- Help with completing the ASQ-3 developmental screening tool which looks for effects of lead poisoning in your child.
- Referrals provided as needed.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

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