

## Safe toys for young children are.....

- Well made ( no sharp parts or splinters; will not pinch)
- Painted with nontoxic, lead-free painting
- Shatter-proof
- Not electric or battery operated
- Checked frequently for safety
- Free of button eyes or



## Smart Toy Shopping

- Pretend play objects give children a chance to try new behaviors and use their imaginations.
- Children like to imitate adults at work or at play.



## Toy Shopping Checklist

Ask yourself these questions before you buy a toy. If you answer yes to most of them, the toy is probably a good purchase.

Question	Yes	No
Is this toy safe for my child's age?		
Will my child be interested enough to play with it over and over again?		
Is it constructed well?		
Does my child provide the power and imagination to operate the toy?		
Will my child feel successful when using the toy?		
Can the toy grow with my child?		
Can my child use the toy in different ways?		
Will it help my child learn?		



## December is Safe Toy and Gift Month



**A message from Bradford Tioga Head Start, Inc.**  
**Call to enroll your child today!**  
**Tel: 570-638-1400**

# Safety Tips

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## Gift Giving

Never leave gifts for adults within reach of a young child. Gifts such as perfume, wine and electronics can be harmful if swallowed by children.

Keep up to date with recalls of toys that you give or receive at [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov).

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## Parties and Celebrations

When visiting friends or family, keep an eye out for things that can break, uncovered electrical outlets and medications or other dangers within a child's reach.

Be aware that guests in your home might have cigarettes or medication with them. Make sure to place coats and purses out of reach of children

Clean up right away after parties. Even small amounts of alcohol left in glasses could be very harmful to children and leftover food could be a choking hazard.



## Blow out the candles and store matches out of reach

Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn and don't forget to blow them out when you leave the room or before you go to sleep.

Make a habit of placing matches and lighters in a safe place out of children's reach. Avoid novelty lighters or lighters that look like toys.

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## Keep button batteries away from young kids

Keep a special eye on small pieces, including button batteries that may be included in electronic toys. While these kinds of games are great for older kids, they can pose a potential danger for younger, curious siblings.

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## Find the perfect toy for the right age

Consider your child's age when purchasing a toy or game. It's worth a second to read the instructions and warning to make sure the gift is just right. Before you've settled on the perfect toy, check out our Shopping Checklist in this brochure!

## Don't forget a helmet for new bikes or other toys

If your child's heart is set on a bike, skateboard or scooter this holiday season, be sure to include a helmet to keep them safe while they're having fun.



## Check your car seat before travel

Seventy three percent of car seats are not used or installed correctly, so before you hit the road, check your car seat. Any child under the age of 4 **MUST** be in a car seat. If they have outgrown the car seat, they must be in a booster seats with the same kind of restraints as a car seat. Use booster seat for kids who have outgrown a forward facing harness seat, but not ready for seatbelts. A booster seat enables the seat belt to fit properly. The law states that a child between the ages of 4 and 8 **MUST** be in a booster seat. Even when children have graduated from booster seats, they should remain in the back seat until they reach the age of 13.

*Safety Tips for Parents and Children, 2016*  
[www.nicklauschildrens.org](http://www.nicklauschildrens.org). CIPA