Protect Your Child from Lead in Paint

Lead can harm your child. If your home was built before 1978, there may be lead in the house paint inside and outside your home. When paint gets old, it breaks down into dust. This dust spreads all around your home and sticks to hands and toys that children put in their mouths. To keep your child safe from lead in paint:

Wash your child's hands and toys often. Always wash hands before eating or sleeping.

Do not let your child eat paint chips or suck or chew on painted surfaces like windowsills or cribs.

Keep your home clean and dust-free. Mop floors, wipe down windowsills with a clean, wet cloth, wash all surfaces, and vacuum often.

Do not sand or scrape paint unless you know that it does not have lead in it. Call your local Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to find out how to protect your family before remodeling or repainting.

Lead poisoning can make it hard for your child to learn, pay attention, and behave. Talk to your child's doctor about testing your child for lead.

Most children who have lead poisoning **do not look or act sick**. The only way to know if your child has lead poisoning is for your child to get a blood test for lead.

For more information, go to www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/clppb, or call your local Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program:

CDPH

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION BRANCH

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