

The Nebraska Regional Poison Center Primary Program

Introduction:

Hi! I'm _____ (you may want to share some of your background such as being a nurse, parent, pharmacist, or teacher and how that relates to this presentation).

Today I would like to talk to you about the Nebraska Regional Poison Center. *Some facts you may want to include are:*

- You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, every day of the year.
- One of the oldest poison centers in the United States. the Nebraska Regional Poison Center was established in 1957.
- Funded by the Nebraska Medical Center, University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University Medical Center.
- Staffed by specially trained Registered nurses and Pharmacists.

See fact sheet for other facts on the Nebraska Regional Poison Center

Discussion:

What is a poison? Poisons can hurt grown-ups, children and pets. Are there any poisons in your home? Name some. In my home I found _____, *you may want to show the items you have collected and briefly explain why these are a problem. If you are not sure why they are a problem, check with the Nebraska Regional Poison Center.*

Has any one ever eaten something that was poisonous or caused them to get sick? What can we do to help us stay safe and/or help someone who has been poisoned?

Show the appropriate level Video Tape:

Review:

Direct your discussion to points made in the video presentation. Did you see some poisons that may be in your house or yard?

- Medicine is not candy. Take only if given by mom, dad, doctor or responsible adult.
- Move medicines and poisons up high or in locked cabinets away from curious eyes and quick hands.
- Store poisons away from foods and children's play areas.
- To avoid confusion and accidents, keep poisons in the original container (use child resistant caps whenever possible).
- Mark containers with the product warning labels. These labels should act as reminders that the contents of the marked containers may be poisonous.
- Stay indoors when grown-ups are using chemicals.
- Have telephone stickers on your phone and call the Nebraska Regional Poison Center anytime that you have a question or think someone may have taken a poison.

Close:

We have learned a lot about poisons, what to do and how to stay healthy.

This is a good time to review materials that will be sent home with the students.

Also at this time Pinky, the elephant mascot of the Nebraska Regional Poison Center may make an appearance.

Details about how you can rent the costume can be obtained by calling the Nebraska Regional Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222, or in Omaha at 955-5555.

Thanks for helping us spread the word about poison prevention and treatment.

The Nebraska Regional Poison Center Primary Program Outline

Thank you for your interest in poison prevention. We have provided this outline as a tool to help you in your presentation. Basic concepts are highlighted, presentation techniques are suggested and materials for reinforcement and home distribution are included. We trust this introduction may be helpful as you prepare your activity. Feel free to adapt the presentation ideas to suit your style as well as the needs and abilities of your audience.

Children under the age of six are most often the victims of accidental poisonings. By introducing a few basic rules with the identification of a number of common, but potentially harmful products, the incidence of accidental poisonings may go down.

Review the basic outline for the presentation. Encourage discussion of the facts not fiction – help keep them on track! After viewing the videotapes, you may want to spend some time on the brochures as a teaching tool. If you are comfortable with the topic, allow questions and answers. They may have some you can't answer or are unsure of – check with us. The poison specialists at the Nebraska Regional Poison Center are always ready to help you. Just call us at 1-800-222-1222, or in Omaha at 955-5555.

An important part of any learning activity is review and evaluation. Please take a moment at the end of your presentation to complete the enclosed evaluation form. It helps us review our programs and we love to hear from you too. Share your ideas, pictures and suggestions with us – we can and do learn from your input. Thanks again for sharing in this important aspect of safety education.

Supplies you may need

Empty bottles of household poisons (i.e. children's vitamins, a prescription medicine bottle, over the counter medicines the children may recognize like Triaminic, Pepto-Bismol and Tylenol, cologne or after shave, shampoo, drain cleaner, dish soap, oven cleaner, furniture polish, insect repellent, windshield fluid, oil, cigarettes, plant leaves or flowers (artificial will illustrate the point). You may want to take your examples from different rooms in the house and from the garage.

- Pictures of household poisons and foods to put in a *good* container and a *bad* container.
- Puppets to act out poison situations.
- Art supplies to draw poisons and things that are good to eat or to color activity sheets with.
- Nebraska Regional Poison Center videotape and materials

Objectives:

To introduce the concept of poison using common household items. To introduce the concept of poison safety by discussing appropriate positive behaviors.

Evaluation:

Children will recognize common household poisons and states appropriate positive behaviors.