Teacher Toolkit

Poisoning Prevention Resources for All Grade Levels

Blue Ridge Poison Center | www.brpc.virginia.edu | 1-800-222- 1222

BLUE RIDGE POISON CENTER

Did you know?

Poisoning is a leading cause of emergency department visits and injury deaths in the U.S. Most poisonings happen in the home from exposures to medicines or to common household products. All ages are at risk.

You can help.

We know you feel an obligation to protect your students from harm. We have developed many free resources to help you. All of our programs and materials use evidence-informed strategies, and are guided by the Virginia Department of Education's Standards of Learning (SOL) for health education. If you don't see something that meets your students' unique needs, please get in touch.

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Preschool & Kindergarten

WHY ARE THEY AT RISK? Even with coaching, very young children cannot tell the difference between what is safe and what is dangerous. Their natural curiosity leads them to explore cabinets, purses, or drawers where harmful substances may be stored. They put things into the mouth--especially when something looks or smells like a familiar treat. Example: pills look just like candy.

These children rely on adults to create a safer environment where they can play and explore. It is just as important to educate parents and caregivers as the children in your classroom.

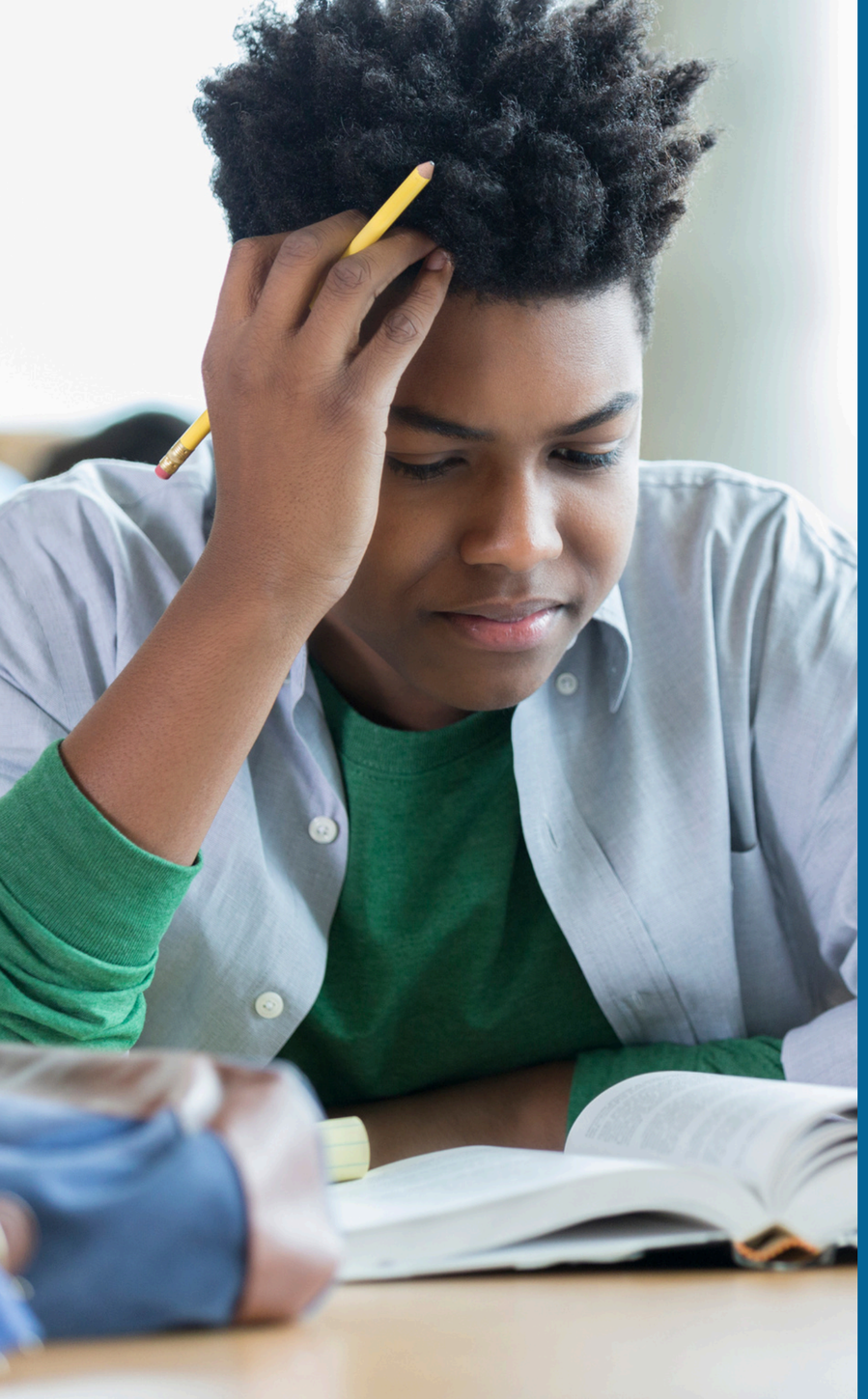
- Stop. Ask First (6-minute video for children)
- List of children's books with a poison safety theme.
- Got Preschoolers? (Flyer). In English or Spanish.
- Five Surprising Dangers Found in Most Homes (8-minute video for adults)
- Letter to send home and Home Safe Home Checklist In English or Spanish.

Early Elementary Grades

WHY ARE THEY AT RISK? As this age group experiences increasing independence, they may encounter poisons in spaces without close adult supervision. They may lack the knowledge or skills to avoid harm from such potential poisons as cleaning products, medicines, pesticides, even outdoor poisoning risks like plants, mushrooms, snakes, etc.

- Poison Prevention BINGO! (up to 20 players)
- Activity Book (puzzles, games, etc.)
- List of children's books with a poison safety theme.
- YOU Can Be a Poisoning Prevention Hero! Lesson plan.
- YOU Can Be a Poisoning Prevention Hero! 8-minute video.
- Poisoning Prevention Kahoot Game (single player version).
- Poisoning Prevention Kahoot Game (classroom version).
- Letter to send home and Home Safe Home Checklist In English or Spanish.

Kahoot is a game-based online learning platform. Teachers can get free or discounted accounts. Details at www.kahoot.com



Middle & High School Grades

WHY ARE THEY AT RISK? Adolescents increasingly spend time apart from adult caregivers. They may use medicines, pesticides, cleaners, and other household chemical products while unsupervised. They may also be exposed to substances of misuse like nicotine, cannabis, alcohol, and prescription drugs.

- Toxic Trivia for Teens (Kahoot* game) *includes optional Teacher's Guide*
- Over-the-Counter Medicine Safety (Grades 5-8 lessons for responsible medicine use. Developed by Johnson & Johnson)
- Vaping and Nicotine: How Much Do You Know? (Kahoot* game)
- Deadly Dares: How Parents & Caretakers Can Help Keep Adolescents Safe from Social Media Challenges. (20 minute video for adults)
- Poison Smarts. (25 minute video for adolescents & adults)
- Cannabis: What Students Need to Know (Kahoot* game)

NOTE: We developed an entire Toolkit for parents and teachers with resources and information about cannabis and adolescents.

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Don't Miss Out!

Subscribe to our Newsletter

- Be aware of emerging or seasonal poisoning concerns.
- Be the first to know about new educational resources.
- Stay up-to-date on the latest trends in substances of abuse.

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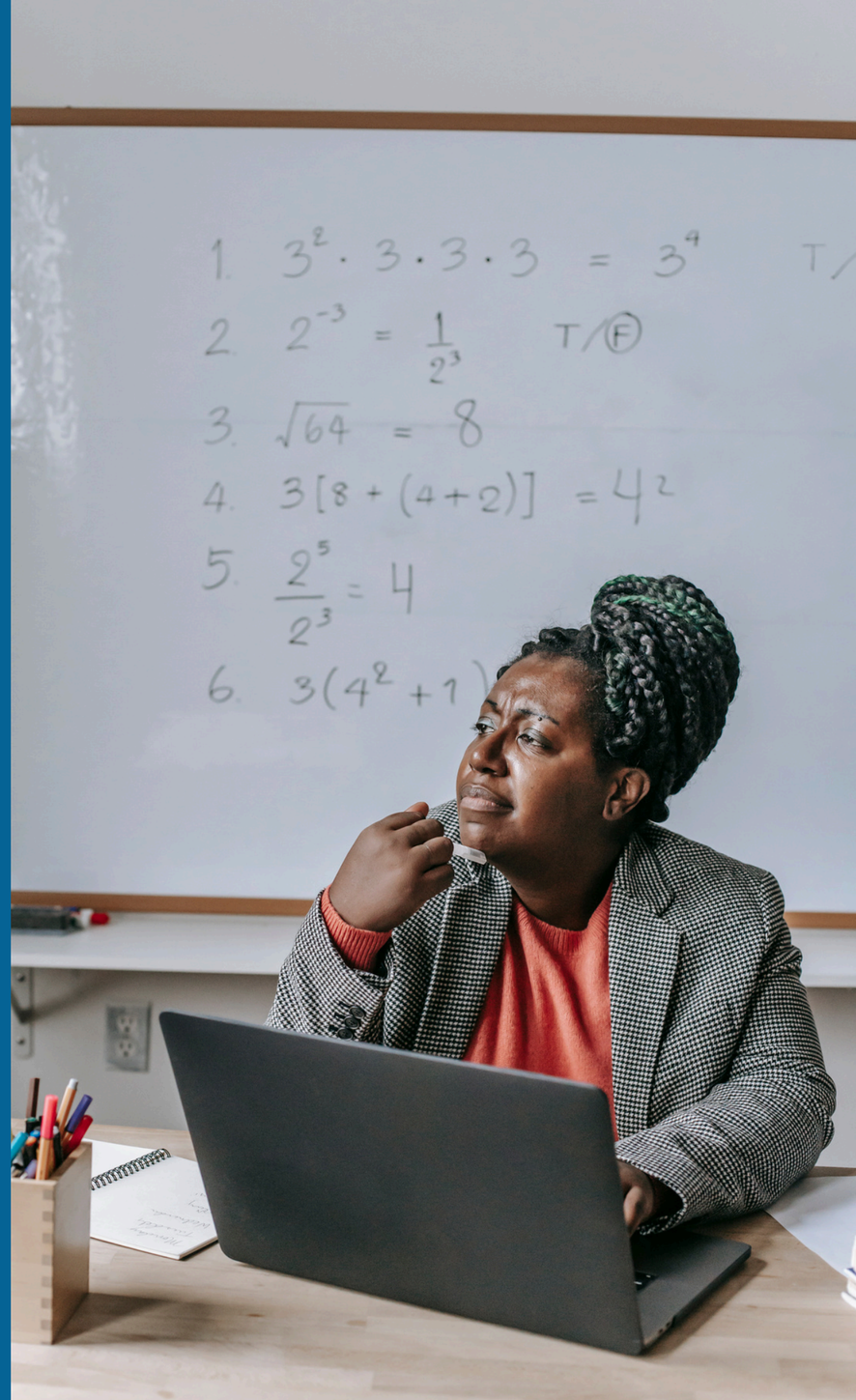
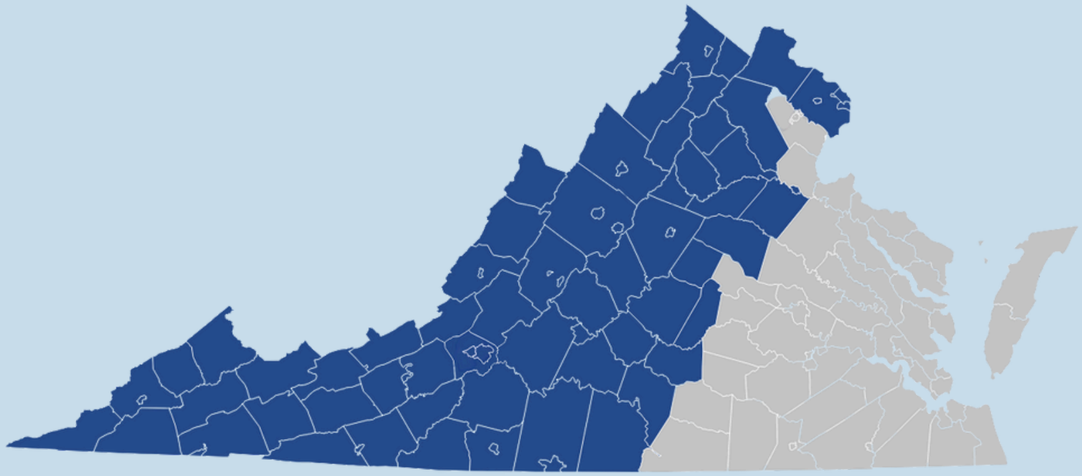


About Us:

The Blue Ridge Poison Center is staffed by healthcare providers with additional training in managing poisoning exposures from all sources. We also answer non-emergency questions about poisoning. Our service area includes all of the cities & counties shaded blue on this map of Virginia.



Call **1-800-222-1222** any time of the night or day. FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL. Scan this image to save that number into your smartphone. *Save the number, save a life.*

The Blue Ridge Poison Center is located in Charlottesville, VA. We are affiliated with University of Virginia Health, who provides most of our operational support. We also receive funding from the Virginia Department of Health and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). We are certified by America's Poison Centers.