

# Lead Poisoning Prevention



## What is Lead Poisoning ?

If you have young kids, it's important to find out whether there's any risk that they might be exposed to lead, especially if you live in an older home. Long-term exposure to lead, a naturally occurring



metal used in everything from construction materials to batteries, can cause serious health problems, particularly in young kids. Lead is toxic to everyone, but unborn babies and young children are at greatest risk for health problems from lead poisoning — their smaller, growing bodies make them more susceptible to absorbing and retaining lead.

Each year in the United States 310,000 1- to 5-year-old kids are found to have unsafe levels of lead in their blood, which can lead to a wide range of symptoms, from headaches and stomach pain to behavioral problems and anemia (not enough healthy red blood cells). Lead can also affect a child's developing brain.



Approximately 38 million housing units in the United States pose potential lead-based paint hazards.



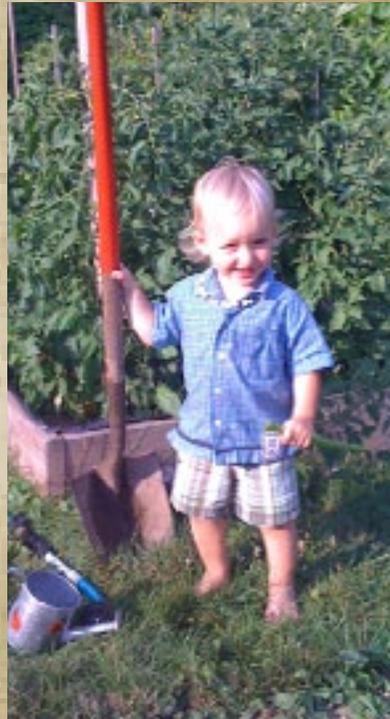


## Symptoms of lead poisoning include

- *Headaches*
- *Irritability*
- *Abdominal pain*
- *Vomiting*
- *Anemia*
- *Weight loss*
- *Poor attention span*
- *Noticeable learning difficulty*
- *Slowed speech development*
- *Hyperactivity*



Just a few particles of dust from lead based paint are enough to poison a child.



Lead from deteriorating paint can be found in soil around the home and in older playgrounds.



Since children often put their hands or toys in their mouths, washing their hands helps protect them from lead poisoning.

# Facts

- 1** :Lead exposure can harm young children and babies even before they are born.
- 2** :Even children who seem healthy can have high levels of lead in their bodies.
- 3** :You can get lead in your body by breathing or swallowing lead dust.
- 4** :Lead-based paint that is in good condition is not a hazard. Read the labels.
- 5** :Removing lead paint improperly can increase the danger to your family.