

# TROUBLE IN TOYLAND

# The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Survey of Toy Safety

November 2017



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The authors bear responsibility for any factual errors. Policy recommendations are those of U.S. PIRG Education Fund. The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of our funders or those who provided review.

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# **Executive Summary**

or over 30 years, U.S. PIRG Education Fund has conducted an annual survey of toy safety, which has led to over 150 recalls and other regulatory actions over the years, and has helped educate the public and policymakers on the need for continued action to protect the health and wellbeing of children.

Toys are safer than ever before, thanks to decades of work by product safety advocates, parents, the leadership of Congress, state legislatures, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Among the toys surveyed this year, we found potential choking hazards, and two products with concentrations of lead exceeding federal standards for children's products. We also found data-collecting toys that may violate children's privacy laws. This report not only lists the potentially dangerous toys that we found this year, but also describes why and how the toys could harm children.

The continued presence of hazards in toys highlights the need for constant vigilance on the part of government agencies and the public to ensure that unsafe toys do not harm children.

Researchers also examined toys recalled by the CPSC between October 2016 and October 2017 and looked at whether they appeared to still be available for sale online. Researchers did not find any recalled toys for sale online. However, parents should watch out for recalled toys that could still be in their homes. Over the past 12 months, the CPSC, in cooperation with manufacturers and distributors, has announced over 30 recalls of toys and children's products totaling over 6.5 million units.

Standards for toy safety are enforced by the CPSC. Safety standards include limits on toxic substances in children's products, size requirements for toys for small children, warning labels about choking hazards, measures to keep magnets and batteries inaccessible, and noise limits.

U.S. PIRG Education Fund staff examined toys to confirm that they are safe. We discovered that unsafe toys remain widely available. The problems we found include:

• Lead: Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to undermine IQ, attentiveness, and academic achievement. Our shoppers identified two fidget spinners that contained excessive levels of lead. Unfortunately, the CPSC chose not to classify these fidget spinners as toys so they will not be regulated under federal standards for lead in children's products. We believe that these fidget spinners are marketed for children under 12 years and should therefore be classified as toys.

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- Small parts are pieces that might block a child's airway. Children, especially those under age three, can choke on small parts. Our shoppers identified several toys that contain small parts, but do not have any warning label at all. These included a peg game as well as golf and football travel games.
- **Balloons** are easily inhaled in attempts to inflate them and can become stuck in children's throats. Balloons are responsible for more choking deaths among children than any other toy or children's product. We found five balloon sets on store shelves that are either marketed to children under eight or have misleading warning labels that make it appear that they are safe for children between ages three and eight.
- **Privacy-Invasive Toys:** We alert parents and toy givers, for the first time, to socalled "connected toys" that may violate children's privacy and other consumer protection laws. As more and more products are part of the "Internet of Things," data collection and the sharing of consumer information become greater concerns. As an example, we list a doll, "My Friend Cayla," which has been banned in Germany for privacy violations and is the subject of a complaint by several consumer groups to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission because it may violate the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. In July, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) issued a warning to consumers to "consider cyber security prior to introducing smart, interactive, internet-connected toys into their homes."

Despite recent progress in making toys safer, toys are still being recalled for hazards such as overheating and choking hazards. To keep children safe from potentially hazardous toys, there is still more to do.

#### Policymakers should continue building upon recent progress in the strengthening of toy safety standards.

- Maintain the CPSC's funding and authorities to protect the public; and,
- Understand that regulations protect health and safety.

# The CPSC should improve recall effectiveness:

- Engage in efforts to increase consumer and researcher awareness of the public hazard database SaferProducts.gov;
- Aggressively seek to increase recall effectiveness by making sellers agree to conduct more effective outreach campaigns that stress the real hazard posed, rather than simply promote the purported good will of the firm;
- Perform regular online sweeps checking for the availability of previously-recalled toys; and,
- Hold companies reselling recalled products accountable, which also sends a message to others.
- The CPSC should continue to enforce and improve strong safety standards:
- Continue to enforce vigorously the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act's mandatory standards for toys, including strict limits on lead and lead paint in any toys, jewelry or other articles for children under 12 years;
- Vigorously enforce the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act's permanent ban on the use of three specific phthalates in all toys and children's products;

- Enlarge the small parts test tube to be more protective of children under three;
- Change the small-ball rule to include small round or semi-round objects, and not just "balls" in the strictest definition, since these toys pose the same hazards as small balls (this is especially true of rounded toy food, since it is "intended" to be eaten);
- Enforce the use of the United States' statutory choke hazard warning label, as many toys now are wrongly labeled with less explicit foreign warnings; and
- Continue to enforce CPSC rules requiring online warning labels.
- Classify all fidget spinners as toys and hold them to federal standards for children's products.

#### Parents and caregivers can also take steps to protect children from potential hazards. We recommend that parents:

- Subscribe to email recall updates from the CPSC and other U.S. government safety agencies available at www.recalls.gov;
- Shop with U.S. PIRG Education Fund's Toy Safety Tips, available at toysafetytips.org;

- Examine toys carefully for hazards before purchase – and don't trust that they are safe just because they are on a store shelf. Check the CPSC recall database at CPSC.gov before buying toys online;
- Report unsafe toys or toy-related injuries to the CPSC at Saferproducts.gov;
- Remember, toys on our list are presented as examples of previously recalled toys only. Other hazards may exist;
- Review the recalled toys list in this report and compare it to toys in your children's toy boxes; and
- Put small parts, or toys broken into small parts, out of reach. Regularly check that toys appropriate for your older children are not left within reach of children who still put things in their mouths.
- Eliminate small magnet hazards from your home.
- Be aware that toys connected to the Internet, as well as apps and websites, may be collecting information about children inappropriately. Learn more about the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA).

# Introduction

oys are safer than ever before, thanks to decades of work by product safety advocates, parents, the leadership of Congress, state legislatures and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Nonetheless, from October 2016 to October 2017 the CPSC, in cooperation with manufacturers and distributors, has announced over 30 recalls of toys and children's products totaling over 6.5 million units.

This year is the 32nd annual release of our Trouble in Toyland report. This year, we emphasize three warnings to parents and toy givers:

- Look out for the two fidget spinner models we found to contain excessive levels of lead; if you have already purchased these fidget spinners, place them in a plastic bag and remove them from your homes.
- Recalls are often not effective in reaching consumers. You may have previously recalled toys at home. We urge you to check our list.
- Data-collecting toys like the dolls we highlight in our report may violate children's privacy and other consumer protection laws.

Choking on small parts, small balls and balloons remains a leading cause of toyrelated deaths and injuries. Some toys can pose hidden hazards, exposing children to dangerous chemicals that are linked to serious health problems. Other emergent hazards the CPSC has addressed in recent years are posed by small powerful rare earth magnets.

Key parts of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) of 2008 recognized the growing threat of toxic chemicals. It gave CPSC authority to enforce strict limits on lead, other heavy metals, and phthalates in toys and children's products.

In 2015 (the last year for which data are available), there were 254,200 toy-related injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments, and 11 toy-related deaths.<sup>1</sup> But despite lingering dangers, in the last 30 years we've come a long way in terms of both policy and compliance with standards.

#### **Toy Safety Milestones**

#### Small Parts Ban (1979):

The CPSC small parts ban prohibited sale of toys or balls intended for children under 3 containing parts, or that could easily break into parts, smaller than a small parts test cylinder.

# The Child Safety Protection Act of 1994

From 1980-1992, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Congress did little to protect children from dangerous products. Throughout that period, PIRG and other consumer groups lobbied Congress and the CPSC to increase the size of the small parts choking hazard test and to require appropriate choke hazard warning labels on toys for older children. A 1992 campaign led by ConnPIRG and a number of child safety advocates resulted in a choke hazard warning label law that took effect in Connecticut in 1993. The Connecticut law, upheld in the courts by the state Attorney General, laid the groundwork for a federal standard.

In 1994, after years of battling the influential and powerful toy lobby, Congress finally passed a child safety proposal championed by PIRG and other safety organizations including the Consumer Federation of America and Consumers Union. The Child Safety Protection Act (CSPA), which took effect in January 1995, required explicit choke hazard warning labels on all toys containing small parts intended for children ages three to six, and the same warnings were required on balloons, small balls, and marbles. It also increased the size of banned small balls, as round objects are especially dangerous choking hazards. This legislation was a powerful first step towards safer toys.

#### The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008

In 2008, after a series of record-breaking toy recalls—including millions of units of lead-laden brand name, iconic toys, Congress passed the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA), which gave the CPSC broad new powers to speed up recalls and hold toy manufacturers more accountable; the act also set stricter bans on lead, phthalates and other toxic chemicals in children's products. Positively, the CPSC recently took action to expand certain phthalate bans under the 2008 act.<sup>2</sup> Importantly, the act also required third-party testing of toys at CPSC-approved laboratories and also established a public database, saferproducts.gov, where consumers can file complaints about hazards posed by any CPSC-regulated product, from toys to toasters and electric ranges.

Since 2008 and the passage of the CP-SIA, the number of children's products recalled on a yearly basis has continued to decline -- whereas before the law, recalls were increasing. This data shows that the CPSIA has had a role in reversing a dangerous trend.

#### New Regulation Includes A Ban On Certain Small Powerful Magnets (2014)

Rare earth magnets sold over the last 15 years are much more powerful than older magnets. Small powerful magnets are found in construction sets, puzzles, toy jewelry, action figures, board games, and train sets, and are also used in products geared towards adults like desk toys and stress relievers. Numerous incidents reported to the CPSC made it clear that children can swallow several magnets and suffer serious injuries requiring emergency surgery when they bind together across intestinal walls. Between 2009 and 2013, the CPSC estimates that high-powered magnets led to approximately 2,900 emergency room-treated injuries. Following regulatory activity, including recalls and lawsuits against several magnet sellers, the CPSC issued a stricter regulation in 2014 that bans the sale of certain small, powerful magnets, regardless of any age labeling asserting that they were "adult desk stress toys," not children's products. However, the regulation was challenged by Zen Magnets and vacated by a U.S. appellate

court in November 2016.<sup>3</sup> In October 2017, a CPSC administrative law judge reinstated a CPSC "Stop Sale" order against Zen Magnets.<sup>4</sup> Zen Magnets has initiated a legal challenge to the order in the U.S. courts; other manufacturers and distributors also seek entry into the marketplace.

#### The Road To Safer Toys

In the past thirty years, the Trouble in Toyland report has led to over 150 recalls and other actions by manufacturers, retailers, and the CPSC.

Going forward, we are pleased with the progress we have made and will continue to advocate for improving choking hazard rules and banning more toxic chemicals. We will also fight against general attacks on consumer protection regulations that affect the CPSC and other agencies.

Dangers are still present, and parents and regulators must remain vigilant, but there are many signs of progress toward safer toys and children's products. From legislation like the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act to recent phthalate and magnet limits, 30+ years of *Trouble in Toyland* has made children safer.

#### The Need To Improve Recall Effectiveness

Yet despite these improvements, making recalls faster and more effective remains a challenge. Not enough consumers hear about recalls and not enough of those who do may take action. This year's report focuses on warning parents and caregivers of the threat posed by recently-recalled toys that you may have at home but haven't heard about.

We also warn retailers and distributors, as well as resellers, particularly Internet sites, that it is illegal to sell previouslyrecalled products. Most brick and mortar stores have instituted inventory control "lock-outs" that prevent a recalled toy a consumer finds on the shelf from being purchased at the checkout. The CPSC has increased efforts to reach out to secondhand stores and monitor Internet sellers.

Yet despite these improvements, making recalls faster and more effective remains a challenge. Not enough consumers hear about recalls and not enough of those who do take action. While not a toy-related death, a toddler death occurred in May 2017, well after a IKEA furniture tipover recall instituted in June 2016. The tragedy has drawn new attention to the need for more action on recall effectiveness.<sup>5</sup>

# Hazards in Toys

Despite progress in recent years, some toys and children's products still have the potential to cause harm. Depending on the materials used and the quality and nature of the product itself, the risks for children posed by toys and other products range from choking on small parts to suffering from dangerous chemical reactions in the body. In extreme cases, the consequences can be fatal. This section describes the most common hazards for children, and the federal standards relevant to each hazard.

#### **Toxic Hazards**

#### Lead

Despite the CSPIA and stronger enforcement by the CPSC, toys containing metals that pose a health risk to children continue to make it onto American store shelves. While the CPSC did not recall a toy due to lead over the past year,<sup>6</sup> our tests this year identified two fidget spinners containing high levels of lead.

Elemental lead is a soft metal occurring naturally in soils and rocks. It has a variety of commercial uses including in batteries, plastics, and radiation shielding. In the past, lead was also added to gasoline and paint.7 Because of lead's toxicity, in 1978 it was banned in household paint, in products marketed to children, and in dishes and cookware in the United States.8 Lead is not discernible by sight or smell. Lead exposure is particularly damaging for young children because of its impact on development. Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to undermine IQ, attentiveness, and academic achievement. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) makes clear that any amount of lead in a child's blood is unsafe.9 Moreover, since the effects of lead exposure cannot be reversed, it is especially important to prevent lead exposure to children in the first place. Unfortunately, toys can pose a risk in part because lead is used in other countries and can be found in imported products.<sup>10</sup> Additionally, lead may be incorporated into plastic.11 Lead is used to soften plastic and make it more flexible, but when the plastic is exposed to sunlight, air, or detergents, the chemical bond between the lead and plastic breaks down, forming lead dust. Children can inhale or come in contact with this dust when they put toys in or near their mouths.<sup>12</sup> Lead in toys continues to be an issue.

#### Federal Standards for Lead

With a few exceptions, federal law requires that all children's products manufactured after August 2011 contain no more than 100 parts per million (ppm) of total lead content in all accessible parts.<sup>13</sup> The CPSC defines accessible parts as parts that a child could reach through "normal and reasonably foreseeable use and abuse of the product."<sup>14</sup>

- Paint or similar surface coatings on all children's products are subject to a limit of 90 ppm of total lead. (Household paints are also subject to this rule.)
- Exceptions to these standards include metal components of bicycles, which cannot contain more than 300 ppm of lead. Components in electronic devices, some used children's products, inaccessible parts, and other items are exempt from the lead standard.<sup>15</sup>

Note that these limits do not meet the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), which recommends that all products intended for use by children contain no more than trace amounts of lead, defined as 40 ppm, the high end of typical lead concentrations in uncontaminated soil.<sup>16</sup>

#### **Toy Survey Findings: Lead**

This year, our lab tests revealed excessive levels of lead in two fidget spinners. The Fidget Wild Premium Spinner Brass center circle tested for 33,000 ppm lead and its arm tested for 22,000 ppm of lead. Although the fidget spinner box includes a "Ages 14+" label, at the time of our laboratory testing, the website where it was available for sale included a statement that it is for children 6+ and specifically stated that it is "framed as a toy".<sup>17</sup> See screenshot from online store website in Appendix 1. The Fidget Wild Premium Spinner Metal's center circle tested for 1,300 ppm of lead and its arm tested for 520 ppm of lead. The item was found in the toy aisle of the store along with other fidget spinners that are labeled for children under 12 years.

Reinforcing an earlier statement by the CPSC's acting chairman that a fidget spinner has to be marketed to kids 12 and younger to be held to federal safety standards for children's products,<sup>18</sup> the CPSC sent our researchers an email (screenshot below) informing them that the CPSC has determined that the fidget spinners we identified, are not toys, but rather general use products, and are therefore not subject to federal lead standards for children's products. We disagree. U.S. PIRG Educa-



Screenshot of email from CPSC.

tion Fund staff found the fidget spinners that we identified in the toy aisle of Target, and one on the Target.com website, which, at the time of our testing, included statements that the product is "framed as a toy" and is suitable for children ages 6 and up.<sup>19</sup> Furthermore, common sense dictates that fidget spinners are meant for kids and should therefore be classified as children's products. A simple online search for fidget spinners and children produces several images and videos of children playing with all types of fidget spinners. U.S. PIRG Education Fund calls on the CPSC to classify all fidget spinners as toys and hold them to the federal standard for lead in children's products.

U.S. PIRG Education Fund staff reached out to Target, Corp. and Bulls i Toy, L.L.C, the distributor of the fidget spinners, with our test results. Both companies claimed that these fidget spinners are general use products, and not children's products subject to legal limits for lead, because they contain a 14+ label. Therefore, neither company will issue a recall or remove them from store shelves.<sup>20</sup>

#### **Phthalates**

Phthalates are a group of chemicals used to soften and increase the flexibility of plastics like polyvinyl chloride (PVC), which is brittle in its original formulation. The plastics industry uses large amounts of phthalates in products such as home siding, flooring, furniture, food packaging, clothing, and toys. Phthalates are also commonly used in industrial products like solvents, lubricants, glue, paint, sealants, insecticides, detergent, and ink.<sup>21</sup>

Research has documented the potential damage of exposure to phthalates at crucial stages of development, including altered development of the male reproductive system and early puberty.<sup>22</sup> At least one type of phthalate is suspected of causing cancer.<sup>23</sup> While the CPSC has not had a toy recall over the past year for excessive levels of phthalates, in October 2017, the CPSC issued a final rule prohibiting children's toys and child care articles containing more than 1,000 ppm of five additional phthalate chemicals.<sup>24</sup>

#### **Federal Standards for Phthalates**

- The CPSIA banned three types of phthalates (DEHP, DBP and BBP) at levels greater than 1,000 ppm in the plasticized parts of child care articles and toys.
- The CPSC's new regulation bans five additional phthalates (DINP, DPENP, DHEXP, DCHP, and DIBP) at levels greater than 1,000 ppm in the plasticized parts of child care articles and toys.<sup>25</sup>

## **Choking Hazards**

Small parts in toys, small balls, and balloons all present potential choking hazards. Choking is the leading form of toyrelated death. From 2001 to 2015, 114 children died from choking on or asphyxiation by a play item.<sup>26</sup> See Appendix 2. Toys containing small parts - for example, a miniature comb for a doll's hair, or small, interlocking construction blocks - may present a choking hazard for children, especially those under the age of three. Younger children are at a stage of childhood development in which mouthing or biting objects is common, increasing the risk that a small toy or component will get lodged in the windpipe.

#### **Small Parts**

The CPSC defines a "small part" as anything that fits inside an official choke test cylinder, which has an interior diameter of 1.25 inches and a slanted bottom with a depth ranging from 1 to 2.25 inches (see Figure 1). This cylinder is the approximate size of the fully expanded throat of a child under the age of three. If a toy or part of a toy – including any part that breaks off or separates during "use and abuse" testing – fits inside the test cylinder, the product constitutes a choking hazard.<sup>27</sup>

#### Federal Standards for Small Parts:

- Federal law bans the sale of toys containing small parts if the toy is intended for use by children under the age of three.
- Toys with small parts intended for children between the ages of three and six years old must include the following explicit choke hazard warning:<sup>28</sup>

#### WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-Small parts. Not for children under 3 yrs.

Figure 1. Choke Test Cylinder



• Marbles, or toys containing marbles, as well as vending machines or toy bins selling products that may pose a choking hazard, are also required to post explicit warnings.<sup>29</sup> The CPSC uses several factors to determine whether a toy is intended for children under three vears old, including the manufacturer's stated intent; age labeling on the product; the advertising and marketing of the product; and if the toy is "commonly recognized" as being intended for a child under three years.30 A number of items, such as crayons, chalk, modeling clay, and finger paints are exempt from the small parts regulation because they cannot be manufactured in a way that would prevent them from breaking into small parts when subjected to "use and abuse" testing. Children's clothing and accessories such as shoe lace holders, diaper pins, and barrettes are also exempt because they need to be small to perform their intended purpose.<sup>31</sup>

#### **Toy Survey Findings: Small Parts**

Our researchers identified three simple games for children between ages three and six years that contain small parts, yet lack a warning label or any age labeling. Small parts are acceptable in toys for children this age, provided the toy includes a choke hazard warning. We purchased a "Peg Game" as well as "Football" and "Golf" travel game sets that had very small parts that are a choke hazard. The packaging lacks the CPSC-required warning label for toys intended for children between three and six that contain small parts.

#### **Small Balls**

Since 1994, federal law has treated small balls in toys as a distinct choking hazard from small parts, one that is subject to more stringent standards. The law defines a ball as "any spherical, ovoid, or ellipsoidal object designed or intended to be thrown, hit, kicked, rolled, dropped, or bounced." In addition, the term "ball" includes any multisided object formed by connecting planes into a generally spherical, ovoid, or ellipsoidal shape that is designated or intended to be used as a ball.<sup>32</sup> As with small parts, the risk is particularly great for young children inclined to put objects in or near their mouths. Between 2001 and 2015, the most recent year for which data are available, small balls and marbles were responsible for 37 choking fatalities in children reported to the CPSC.<sup>33</sup> U.S. PIRG Education Fund believes that small balls are not the only round toys that are a choke hazard. We recommend that all round, ball-shaped toys pass not just the small parts test but the small ball test, too. Any small, rounded toy, such as items found in toy food sets, can choke a child.

#### Federal Standards for Small Balls

- Balls with a diameter of less than 1.75 inches (as opposed to small parts which must fit into a cylinder 1.25 inches across) are banned for children younger than three years of age.<sup>34</sup> Toys that are spherical or have spherical parts, but are not intended for use as a ball, do not have to meet this standard.
- Any small ball intended for children over the age of three must include the following warning:<sup>35</sup>

# ▲ WARNING:

CHOKING HAZARD--This toy is a small ball. Not for children under 3 yrs.

• A toy or game containing a small ball and intended for children between ages three and eight must include this warning:<sup>36</sup>

## Marning:

CHOKING HAZARD--Toy contains a small ball. Not for children under 3 yrs.

#### Balloons

Balloons pose the most serious choking hazard to children in the United States. They are responsible for more childhood deaths by suffocation than any other product. Children can suffocate on balloons by accidentally inhaling while attempting to inflate them, by inhaling uninflated balloons while sucking or chewing on them, or by inhaling pieces of broken balloons.<sup>37</sup> Between 2001 and 2015, the most recent vear for which data are available, approximately 39 percent of all toy-related choking fatalities reported to the CPSC involved balloons.38 Because balloons are intended for older children, and because of the risks inherent in inflating them, balloons present a serious choking hazard for children significantly older than the typical at-risk population for small parts and balls.

#### Federal Standards for Balloons

Balloon packages must display an explicit choke hazard warning. Due to the risk balloons pose even to older children, the warning must explain that the hazard applies to children younger than eight.<sup>39</sup>

The required label is:

### MARNING:

CHOKING HAZARD--Children under 8 yrs. can choke or suffocate on uninflated or broken balloons. Adult supervision required.

Keep uninflated balloons from children. Discard broken balloons at once.

#### **Toy Survey Findings: Balloons**

Almost all of the balloons packages we inspected in stores included the required warning label, complete with language warning that children under eight can choke on balloons and balloon parts. However, we continue to find balloons marketed to children under eight that also include an indication that the product is for children ages 3 and older, or contain a second label with a small parts warning that the balloons are not for children under 3 years. This second label can be confusing because a parent can assume that the balloons can be used by children between 3 and 8 years. Additionally, we found one balloon set which did not contain the requisite warning label that children under eight can choke on balloons and balloon parts.

#### Magnets

Small, powerful magnets that rose to popularity in the mid-to-late 2000s have the potential to cause serious injury and even death due to complications arising from ingestion. These "rare-earth" magnets are much more powerful than refrigerator magnets. Such magnets are used in various types of toys including construction sets, puzzles, toy jewelry, action figures, board games, and train sets. They are also common in novelty items containing hundreds of small magnetic pieces and previously marketed at adults as sculpture kits, desk toys, or stress relievers. "Buckyballs" - the subject of a recall ordered by the CPSC – are perhaps the most well-known example of such a product, with hundreds of small, spherical magnets, each much smaller than a marble, closer in size to a BB pellet.

Despite being marketed as a desk toy for adults, incidents reported to the CPSC made clear that children were nonetheless suffering serious injury after swallowing these magnets, highlighting the risk posed by adult novelty items even with appropriate warning labels.<sup>40</sup> What makes these adult magnet sets so dangerous is that their numerous magnets are easy to lose track of and the products themselves are inherently appealing to children. While very young children may mistake component magnets for candy, older children and young adolescents may use pairs of magnets to imitate facial or tongue pierc-

ings, thus putting magnets in a position to be accidentally inhaled or swallowed.<sup>41</sup> Once in the digestive system, a single magnet may pass through the body without incident. If two or more magnets are swallowed, however, their attractive forces can pull them toward each other, causing obstructions or pinching, or trapping intestinal walls or other digestive tissue.42 In extreme cases, the magnetic attraction can perforate intestinal walls. In 2013, a 19-month old girl died after seven small magnetic balls perforated her bowel, leading to infection.43 Even non-fatal magnetrelated injuries are severe. Nearly 80 percent of high-powered magnet ingestions require invasive medical intervention, either through an endoscopy, surgery, or both. In comparison, only 10 to 20 percent of other foreign body ingestions require endoscopic intervention and almost none require surgery.44 Between 2009 and 2013, the CPSC estimates that high-powered magnets caused approximately 2,900 emergency room-treated injuries.<sup>45</sup> A recently published study of magnet-caused injuries at one large pediatric hospital found a significant increase in their incidence between 2002 and 2012.46 From October 2016 to October 2017, the CPSC recalled two toys for magnet hazards.47

#### **Federal Standards for Magnets**

- In September 2014, the CPSC adopted a new rule that powerful magnets, whether sold in sets or individually, must be too large to fit into the official small parts cylinder used by the CPSC to determine choke hazards (see "Choking Hazards" section). Magnets that fit into a choke tube and that exceed the CPSC's magnetic flux standards are banned for sale. The ban on small, high-powered magnet sets took effect on April 1, 2015.<sup>48</sup>
- The separate ASTM F963 standard for toys bans loose magnets or magnetic

components in toys for children under the age of 14. There is an exception for magnets included in certain "hobby, craft, and science kit-type items" intended for children age eight years and older, provided the products comply with special magnet hazard disclosure requirements.49 The severity of injuries caused by small, high-powered magnets led to the CPSC's ban. In 2012, the CPSC sued several manufacturers of small, powerful magnets to stop the distribution of Buckyballs and similar products. The lawsuits argued that warning labels had been ineffective in preventing injuries to children. All but one of the manufacturers, Zen Magnets, had settled with the CPSC by the summer of 2014 and agreed to recall their products.<sup>50</sup> The CPSC subsequently issued a regulatory ban on all similar products because of the risk of injury and death they present.

However, the regulation was challenged by Zen Magnets and vacated by a divided panel of the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals, in November 2016.<sup>51</sup> In October 2017, a CPSC administrative law judge, on review of a modified recall order again Zen Magnets, found that certain Zen Magnets do "constitute a substantial product hazard" under the 2014 regulation and reinstated a CPSC "Stop Sale" order.<sup>52</sup>

Zen Magnets has initiated a legal challenge to the order in the U.S. courts. Other manufacturers seek entry in the marketplace.

**Recommendation:** We continue to recommend to all parents that old small powerful magnet sets be placed in plastic bags and thrown away.

# Data-Collecting Toys & FBI Alert

As more and more products become connected to the Internet as part of the "Internet of Things," data collection, data privacy and the sharing of consumer information become greater concerns. While the collection of and sharing of information about adults and teenagers is lightly regulated in the United States, the collection and subsequent use of information about children under 13 is governed by the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) of 1998. The act is enforced by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), which has brought at least 28 actions against websites and firms for COPPA violations.53 In June, the FTC confirmed that "connected-toys" are subject to COPPA.54

In July, the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) issued a stark warning to parents:

The FBI encourages consumers to consider cyber security prior to introducing smart, interactive, internetconnected toys into their homes or trusted environments. [...] In some cases, toys with microphones could record and collect conversations within earshot of the device. Information such as the child's name, school, likes and dislikes, and activities may be disclosed through normal conversation with the toy or in the surrounding environment. The collection of a child's personal information combined with a toy's ability to connect to the Internet or other devices raises concerns for privacy and physical safety. Personal information (e.g., name, date of birth, pictures, address) is typically provided when creating user accounts. In addition, companies collect large amounts of additional data, such as voice messages, conversation recordings, past and real-time physical locations, Internet use history, and Internet addresses/IPs.<sup>55</sup>

The number of connected products grows daily. Websites, mobile apps and products, including children's watches and toys, are all capable of collecting information about and tracking users, including children under 13.

As an example of a toy that may pose privacy problems, we list a popular doll, "My Friend Cayla." The doll has been banned in Germany<sup>56</sup> for privacy violations and is the subject of a complaint by several consumer groups to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission because it may violate the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. The toy's manufacturer is Genesis Toys; the consumer complaint to the FTC is targeted at both Genesis and its software partner Nuance Communications. According to the complaint, the doll is intended for children 4 and up.<sup>57</sup>

The consumer groups allege that the doll has an unsecure Bluetooth connection that does not require a password to connect, meaning that the doll can function as a remote Bluetooth headset, speaker or microphone on any Bluetoothenabled device, without downloading and using the doll's companion app. We confirmed this.

From their complaint:58

11. [...] The physical doll contains a Bluetooth microphone and speaker, and the companion app provides the data processing to facilitate the toy's ability to capture the private communications of children. [...]

65. [...] The dolls do not implement any other security measure to prevent unauthorized Bluetooth pairing.

66. As a result, when the Cayla and i-Que dolls are powered on and not already paired with another device, any smartphone or tablet within a 50-foot range can establish a Bluetooth connection with the dolls. Users do not have to enter an authentication code or have physical access to the doll in order to establish a connection with the dolls. Users also do not need to have the Cayla or i-Que companion application installed because smartphones identify the doll as a handsfree headset.<sup>59</sup>

The consumer groups also make a variety of allegations that the doll's collection of information violates COPPA. From their complaint:

91. As described above, Genesis operates an online service directed to children via the My Friend Cayla and i-Que Intelligent Robot dolls and companion applications, which collects personal information from children, including audio files of children's voices, and children's names, location, and IP addresses.

92. In connection with the acts and practices described above, Genesis Toys collects personal information from children younger than 13 in violation of COPPA.<sup>60</sup>

We include Cayla in this year's report as an example of just one Internet of Things toy collecting information about children. Recently, we joined a number of consumer groups, including Consumers Union (publisher of Consumer Reports), in a letter to the FTC about certain children's smart watches that may also violate COP-PA and may pose other privacy concerns.<sup>61</sup>

Parents interested in learning about COPPA can download a free guide --Protecting Children's Online Privacy: A Parent's Guide to the new stronger kids' privacy rules for digital media (COPPA) -published by the non-profit privacy watchdog, the Center for Digital Democracy.<sup>62</sup>

### **Excessive Noise**

Excessive noise can be harmful; damaging the inner ear and causing hearing loss. Sounds can cause harm by being too loud even for a short period of time, or by being loud over an extended timeframe. Hearing loss from excessive noise exposure is common in the U.S., even for the young. Sixteen percent of teens aged 12 to 19 years have some self-reported hearing loss for which loud noise could be responsible.<sup>63</sup> A 1998 study of children in a wider age range found approximately 15 percent of children between ages six and 17 showed signs of hearing loss.<sup>64</sup>

While the CPSC has not recalled a toy over the past year for noise hazards, excessive noise in toys is of concern because children have the most to lose from hearing loss. Loss of hearing at an early age can affect a child's ability to learn vocabulary, grammar, idiomatic expressions, and other aspects of verbal communication.<sup>65</sup> This could have consequences for their educational attainment and social and professional success later in life.

#### **Federal Standards for Noise Levels**

Noise standards have improved in recent years. Toy manufacturers were not required to follow sound standard guidelines until 2009 when federal law gave the CPSC authority to enforce voluntary standards contained in the comprehensive ASTM F963 toy standard.<sup>66</sup>

- Hand-held, tabletop, floor, and crib toys producing continuous sound cannot do so in excess of 85 decibels when measured from approximately 20 inches.<sup>67</sup>
- Close-to-the-ear toys must adhere to a continuous sound limit of 65 decibels when measured from approximately 20 inches.
- Close-to-the-ear toys are subject to a limit of 96 decibels for bursts of noise when measured from approximately 20 inches.
- All other toys are subject to a limit of 115 decibels for bursts of noise, except toys using an explosive action or percussion cap, which are limited to 125 decibels. As with all sound standards, these are noise levels as measured at approximately 20 inches.

### **Overheating of Batteries and Chargers**

In the United States, burns and fires are leading causes for unintentional deaths and injuries to children.<sup>68</sup> From October 2016 to October 2017, the CPSC recalled six toys due to overheating which can lead to fire and burn hazards.<sup>69</sup> Hoverboards remain a popular item that continue to be recalled because certain models contain lithium-ion battery packs that could overheat, which could lead to the products smoking, catching fire, or even exploding.<sup>70</sup>

# Recommendations

#### Policymakers should continue building upon recent progress in the strengthening of toy safety standards.

- Maintain the CPSC's funding and authorities to protect the public; and
- Understand that regulations protect health and safety.

## The CPSC should improve recall effectiveness:

- Engage in efforts to increase consumer and researcher awareness of the public hazard database SaferProducts.gov;
- Aggressively seek to increase recall effectiveness by making sellers agree to conduct more effective outreach campaigns that stress the real hazard posed, rather than simply promote the purported good will of the firm;
- Perform regular online sweeps checking for the availability of previously-recalled toys; and
- Hold companies reselling recalled products accountable, which also sends a message to others.

# The CPSC should continue to enforce and improve strong safety standards:

- Continue to vigorously enforce the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act's mandatory standards for toys, including strict limits on lead and lead paint in any toys, jewelry or other articles for children under 12 years;
- Vigorously enforce the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act's permanent ban on the use of three specific phthalates in all toys and children's products;
- Enlarge the small parts test tube to be more protective of children under three;
- Change the small-ball rule to include small round or semi-round objects, and not just "balls" in the strictest definition, since these toys pose the same hazards as small balls (this is especially true of rounded toy food, since it is "intended" to be eaten;
- Enforce the use of the United States' statutory choke hazard warning label, as many toys now are wrongly labeled with less explicit foreign warnings; and

- Continue to enforce CPSC rules requiring online warning labels.
- Classify all fidget spinners as toys and hold them to federal standards for children's products.

#### Parents and caregivers can also take steps to protect children from potential hazards. We recommend that parents:

- Subscribe to email recall updates from the CPSC and other U.S. government safety agencies available at www.recalls. gov;
- Shop with U.S. PIRG Education Fund's Toy Safety Tips, available at toysafetytips.org;
- Examine toys carefully for hazards before purchase – and don't trust that they are safe just because they are on a store shelf. Check the CPSC recall database at CPSC.gov before buying toys online;

- Report unsafe toys or toy-related injuries to the CPSC at Saferproducts.gov;
- Remember, toys on our list are presented as examples of previously recalled toys only. Other hazards may exist;
- Review the recalled toys list in this report and compare it to toys in your children's toy boxes;
- Put small parts, or toys broken into small parts, out of reach. Regularly check that toys appropriate for your older children are not left within reach of children who still put things in their mouths;
- Eliminate small magnet hazards from your home; and
- Be aware that that toys connected to the Internet, as well as apps and websites, may be collecting information about children inappropriately. Learn more about the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA).

# CPSC-Recalled Toys from October 20, 2016 to October 5, 2017

Name of Toy	Halloween LED Gel Clings
Distributor	Target Corp., of Minneapolis, Minn.
Original Dates of Sale	August 2016 through September 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$1
Why Toy is a Hazard	The gel clings can separate and expose the inner decal and LED/button battery compartment, posing choking and button battery ingestion hazards to children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately remove the recalled gel clings from areas with children and return them to any Target store for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	Model number 234-25-0904 is printed on the gel cling's packaging.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Target-Recalls-Halloween-LED-Gel-Clings#
Recall Date	10/20/16
Number of Units Recalled	127,000
Incidents/Injuries	None reported





Name of Toy	Peg Perego's 850 Polaris Sportsman Ride-on Vehicle
Importer	Peg Perego USA, of Fort Wayne, Ind.
Original Dates of Sale	October 2014 through April 2016
Original Price Before Recall	\$500 - \$600
Why Toy is a Hazard	A relay on the circuit board can fail causing the vehicle's motor to overheat and ignite, posing fire and burn hazards.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop children from using the recalled toy vehicles and contact Peg Perego to receive a free replacement circuit board with instructions, including shipping. Consumers can also access the installation instructions on the firm's website. Peg Perego is contacting known customers directly.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Peg Perego's 850 Polaris Sportsman ride-on, 24-volt battery operated toy vehicles intended for children ages 5 to 7 years. The ATV-style vehicles for two people are silver, red and black and have four wheels, a flip-up backrest for the back passenger and a front and rear luggage rack. Vehicles with date codes 651016, 651017, 651020, 651021, 651022, 651023, 651024, 651027, 651028, 651029, 651030, 660304, 660305, 661123, 661124, 661125 and 661130 are included in this recall. The date code can be found underneath the vehicle seat. Sportsman Twin and 850 EFI appear on the side of the ride-on vehicle and Polaris appears on the side of the vehicle's seat.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Peg-Perego-Recalls-Childrens-Ride-On-Vehicles#
Recall Date	10/27/16
Number of Units Recalled	3,000
Incidents/Injuries	Peg Perego has received three reports of the children's ride-on toy vehicles overheating, including one report of a burn.



Name of Toy	Lexibook Baby Bath Seats and Chairs
Distributor	Lexibook S.A., of France
Original Dates of Sale	January 2013 through August 2016
Original Price Before Recall	\$30 - \$60
Why Toy is a Hazard	The bath seats/chairs fail to meet the federal safety standard, including requirements for stability and the bath seats can tip over while a baby is in it, posing a drowning hazard to babies.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled baby bath seats and contact the online retailer where it was purchased for return instructions and to receive a full refund, or a refund in the form of a store credit or gift card, depending on the online retailer. All known purchasers will be contacted directly about the recall.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall includes all Lexibook Baby Bath Seats and Chairs. The plastic baby bath seats/chairs are intended for children 6 months and up. They have a plastic base with suction cups on the bottom, a back/arm support and a toy tray. "Lexibook" is stamped on the back/arm support. "Made in China" and "2014 Lexibook Limited IT028/IT029 SN: 1407/VA09" are stamped on the bottom of the base. They were sold in a variety of colors.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Baby-Bath-Seats-Chairs
Recall Date	12/1/16
Number of Units Recalled	7,000
Incidents/Injuries	None reported



Name of Toy	Orbit Self-balancing Scooters/Hoverboards
Distributor	World Trading, of Valencia, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	December 2015
Original Price Before Recall	\$300
Why Toy is a Hazard	The lithium-ion battery packs in the self-balancing scooters/hoverboards can overheat, posing a risk of smoking, catching fire and/or exploding.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using these recalled products and contact World Trading to exchange their hoverboard for a free UL-certified replacement hoverboard.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Orbit brand self-balancing scooters/hoverboards. The hoverboards have two wheels at either end of a platform and are powered by lithium ion battery packs. Orbit brand hoverboards were sold in the following six colors: black, blue, gold, green, red and white. "Orbit" is printed on a black sticker on the underside of the hoverboard.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/World-Trading-Recalls-Orbit-Self-Balancing- Scooters-and-Hoverboards
Recall Date	12/13/16
Number of Units Recalled	1,900
Incidents/Injuries	None reported



Name of Toy	Bump 'N Go Walking Egg Laying Chicken with Light, Sound and Music
Importer	Bingo Deals
Original Dates of Sale	July 2015 through June 2016
Original Price Before Recall	\$20
Why Toy is a Hazard	The toys contain small eggs and the chicken can break into small plastic pieces, both posing a choking hazard to children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take the chicken toy and eggs away from children and contact Bingo Deals for a full refund. Bingo Deals is contacting consumers who bought the toy directly.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves the Bump 'N Go Walking Egg Laying Chicken with light, sound and music. The battery-powered plastic toy is a yellow chicken with an orange head and orange wings. The chicken toy includes three white plastic eggs that are placed into the back of the chicken and then released from the bottom. The chicken measures 7 inches wide by 6 inches tall by 7 inches deep. The eggs measure one inch wide by one inch tall by one inch deep. "QQ Chicken" is printed on the wing. A small yellow chicken sits on the chicken's back.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Chicken-Toys-Recalled-by-Bingo-Deals#
Recall Date	12/13/16
Number of Units Recalled	2,700
Incidents/Injuries	None reported



Name of Toy	Joyrider Three-Wheeled Scooters
Importer	Glopo Inc, South El Monte, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	June 2014 through January 2016
Original Price Before Recall	\$50 - \$80
Why Toy is a Hazard	The front wheels of the children's scooter can detach when riding, posing a fall hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using recalled scooters and contact GLOPO for instructions on receiving a free repair kit.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Joyrider three-wheeled scooters for children. They have a low, foot-gripping deck, multicolored handgrips, and an adjustable metal T-bar handle. The scooters are made of metal and plastic and come in a variety of colors. The tracking label sticker can be found on the back of the scooter, with batch PO number of G20140423. Recalled model numbers are: GT5048R, GT5110R, GT5121R, GT5124R, GT5125R, GT5122R, GT5117R, GT5123R. Model numbers can be found on the bottom of the scooter base, on the receipt and on the packaging.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/GLOPO-Recalls-Childrens-Scooters
Recall Date	12/29/16
Number of Units Recalled	520
Incidents/Injuries	GLOPO has received one report of the front wheels detaching from the scooter, resulting in an injury to a child who fell off the scooter.



Name of Toy	2nd Generation Boosted Dual+ electric skateboards with lithium ion battery packs
Importer	Boosted Inc., of Mountain View, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	September 2016 through November 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$1,500
Why Toy is a Hazard	The lithium ion battery pack of the electric-powered skateboards can overheat and smoke, posing a fire hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled skateboards and contact Boosted for a free replacement battery pack.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves 2nd Generation Boosted Dual+ electric skateboards with lithium ion battery packs. "Boosted" is printed on the wooden skateboards. Serial numbers that start with S2634 through S2644 are located on a white sticker on the bottom of the boards. The battery packs were sold as original equipment with the skateboards and are attached to the bottom of the board in a black thermoplastic enclosure. Model number B2SR and "Boosted Lithium" are printed on the battery pack. The battery packs have an orange power button.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Boosted-Recalls-Electric-Skateboards
Recall Date	1/12/17
Number of Units Recalled	3,200
Incidents/Injuries	Boosted has received two reports of the battery packs overheating and smoking. No injuries have been reported.



Name of Toy	RH Baby & Child Vintage Race Car Mobiles
Importer	Restoration Hardware (RH), of Corte Madera, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	October 2014 through October 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$50
Why Toy is a Hazard	The wheels on the mobile's hanging cars can detach and fall, posing a choking hazard to young children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled mobiles, place away from children and contact RH Baby & Child for a full refund. The firm is contacting purchasers of the product directly.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves RH Baby & Child vintage race car mobiles. The recalled mobiles are used as decorative items that hang from the ceiling. The mobiles contain six wooden cars in various colors with spinning axles and wooden wheels attached to the axles.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/RH-Baby-and-Child-Recalls-Mobiles
Recall Date	1/17/17
Number of Units Recalled	1,000
Incidents/Injuries	RH has received one report of a wheel detaching from the mobile. No injuries have been reported.



Name of Toy	Pulse Safe Start Transform Electric Scooters
Importer	Target Corp., of Minneapolis, Minn.
Original Dates of Sale	October 2016 through November 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$100
Why Toy is a Hazard	The knuckle that joins the wheel of the children's electric scooters to the axle can break, posing a fall hazard to the rider.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take the recalled scooters away from children and contact Pulse Performance Products for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Pulse Safe Start Transform electric scooters for children with manufacturing date codes between September 10, 2016 and October 11, 2016. The date code is printed on a label located under the platform in format XX(month)/XX(day)/2016 – 066QY. The scooters were sold in blue and have two wheels in front and one in the rear.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Pulse-Performance-Recalls-Childrens-Electric-Scooters
Recall Date	1/24/17
Number of Units Recalled	8,900
Incidents/Injuries	None reported





Name of Toy	Happy Holidays! Mickey Mouse Nightlight
Importer	Disney Destinations, LLC, d/b/a Disney Theme Park Merchandise, of Lake Buena Vista, Fla.
Original Dates of Sale	July 2016 through November 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$15
Why Toy is a Hazard	Liquid from the nightlight can leak onto the electrical outlet, posing a fire hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled nightlights and contact Walt Disney Parks and Resorts US, Inc. for instructions on returning them for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves the Happy Holidays! Mickey Mouse Nightlight with a Mickey Mouse face and red and white Santa hat filled with liquid and glitter. The date code FAC # 019808-16150 is printed on the bottom rear of the nightlight. The UPC code, 400009489637, is printed on a sticker on the bottom of the product packaging.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Walt-Disney-Parks-and-Resorts-Recalls-Mickey- Mouse-Nightlights
Recall Date	2/2/17
Number of Units Recalled	3,000
Incidents/Injuries	Walt Disney Parks and Resorts have received two reports of incidents, including one electrical fire. No injuries have been reported.



Name of Toy	Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse Light-spinner Wands
Importer	Feld Entertainment Inc., of Vienna, Va.
Original Dates of Sale	October 2016 through November 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$22
Why Toy is a Hazard	The top component of the light-spinner toy wands can detach and expose an 8-inch metal rod, posing an injury hazard to young children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled wands and contact Feld Entertainment to receive a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves light-spinner wands with lot numbers 954544 and 954603 imprinted on the bottom of the toy. The light-spinner wands have either Mickey Mouse or Minnie Mouse at the top. The Mickey Mouse wands are yellow, red and black. The Minnie Mouse wands are pink, white and blue. The wands measure about 18 inches tall.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Feld-Entertainment-Recalls-Toy-Wands-Due
Recall Date	2/9/17
Number of Units Recalled	30,100
Incidents/Injuries	None reported



Name of Toy	Little Live Pets Lil Frog and Lil Frog Lily Pad toys
Importer	Regal Logistics, of Fife, Wash.
Manufacturer	Moose Toys Proprietary Ltd., of Australia
Original Dates of Sale	August 2016 through February 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$15 - \$25
Why Toy is a Hazard	When the button batteries are removed from the toy frogs, the battery's cap can become a projectile and the battery's chemicals can leak, posing chemical and injury hazards.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the toy frogs, refrain from opening the battery compartment and contact Moose Toys for a free replacement Little Live Pet product.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves the Little Live Pets Lil Frog plastic toys. They operate with four button batteries and jump. Little Live Pets Lil Frog has SKU: 28217 and Lil Frog Lily Pad has SKU: 28218 printed on the frog's lower belly near its left thigh with a manufacture date code under it. The date code range is WS112016 to WS123216. The toy frogs were sold in pink, blue and green colors.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Moose-Toys-Recalls-Toy-Frogs
Recall Date	2/22/17
Number of Units Recalled	427,000
Incidents/Injuries	The firm has received 17 reports of the battery's cap becoming a projectile or battery chemicals leaking, including two injuries that resulted in emergency room and doctor's office visits for eye irritation from the battery chemicals.



Name of Toy	Little Tikes 2-in-1 Snug 'n Secure Pink Toddler Swings
Manufacturer	Little Tikes, of Hudson, Ohio
Original Dates of Sale	November 2009 through May 2014
Original Price before Recall	\$25
Why Toy is a Hazard	The plastic seat can crack or break, posing a fall hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled swings and contact Little Tikes for a refund in the form of a credit towards the purchase of another Little Tikes product.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Little Tikes 2-in-1 Snug'n Secure pink toddler swings. The swings have a pink T-shaped restraint in front with a Little Tikes logo. The swing is suspended by four yellow ropes. The model number 615573 is molded on the back of the swing seat and there is a manufacturing date code stamp on the back of the seat. The molded INNER arrow of the date code stamp points to "10", "11", "12" or "13", it is included in the recall. In addition, swings with a date code stamp of "9" on the INNER arrow combined with "43" or higher number stamped on the OUTER are included in this recall. No other date codes or other colored swings are affected.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Little-Tikes-Recalls-Toddler-Swings
Recall Date	2/23/17
Number of Units Recalled	540,000
Incidents/Injuries	The firm has received about 140 reports of the swing breaking, including 39 injuries to children including abrasions, bruises, cuts and bumps to the head. Two of the reported injuries included children with a broken arm.





Name of Toy	Kids II Oball Rattles
Importer	Kids II Inc., of Atlanta, Ga.
Original Dates of Sale	January 2016 through February 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$5 - \$7
Why Toy is a Hazard	The clear plastic disc on the outside of the oball rattles can break, releasing small beads, posing a choking hazard to young children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take these recalled rattles away from young children and contact the firm to receive a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Oball Rattles in pink, blue, green and orange with model number 81031 printed on the inner surface of one of the plastic discs and on the packaging. The balls have 28 finger holes and measure four inches in diameter. Embedded in the rattles are a clear plastic disc with all orange beads and two clear plastic discs with beads of varying colors on the perimeter. Only rattles with date codes T0486, T1456, T2316, T2856 and T3065 located on a small triangle on the inner surface of the rattle are included in the recall. The first three numbers represent the day of the year and the last digit represents the year of production.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Kids-II-Recalls-Oball-Rattles
Recall Date	3/2/17
Number of Units Recalled	680,000
Incidents/Injuries	The firm has received 42 reports of the plastic disc breaking releasing small beads including two reports of beads found in children's mouths and three reports of gagging.



Name of Toy	Vecaro Glide65, Drift8, and Trek10 Self-balancing Scooter/Hoverboard
Manufacturer	Vecaro LifeStyle, of Cerritos, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	November 2015 through November 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$300 - \$400
Why Toy is a Hazard	The lithium-ion battery packs in the self-balancing scooters/hoverboards can overheat, posing a risk of smoking, catching fire and/or exploding.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using these recalled scooters/hoverboards and contact Vecaro to return their unit to receive a free repair or a credit toward the purchase of a UL 2272 certified Vecaro Glide or Glide-X.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves the Vecaro brand Glide65, Drift8, and Trek10 self-balancing scooter, commonly referred to as hoverboards. Hoverboards have one wheel at each end of a platform and are powered by lithium-ion battery packs. The boards have "Vecaro" printed on the front outer casing and come in black, white, red, blue, metallic gold, metallic silver, graffiti white print, and red flame print. The model number is on the right for both the Glide65 and Drift8. The Trek10 model number is on top of the board.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Vecaro-LifeStyle-Recalls-Self-Balancing-Scooters- Hoverboards
Recall Date	3/23/17
Number of Units Recalled	500
Incidents/Injuries	Vecaro has received three reported incidents of hoverboards smoking. No injuries or property damage have been reported.






Name of Toy	Target Magnetic Tic Tac Toe Games
Importer	Target Corp., of Minneapolis, Minn.
Original Dates of Sale	December 2016 through February 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$5
Why Toy is a Hazard	The magnets can come off the tic tac toe game pieces, posing a choking hazard. In addition, when two or more magnets are swallowed, they can link together inside the intestines and clamp onto body tissues, causing intestinal obstructions, perforations, sepsis and death. Internal injury from magnets can pose serious lifelong health effects.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled tic tac toe game and return it to any Target store for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves a magnetic tic tac toe 10 x 10 inch plywood board with nine "X" and "Heart" game pieces. The game pieces have a magnet on the back. Model number "234-25-1089" is printed on the bottom right corner of the product.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Target-Recalls-Magnetic-Tic-Tac-Toe-Games
Recall Date	3/29/17
Number of Units Recalled	19,000
Incidents/Injuries	Target has received one report of the magnets falling off the game piece. No injuries have been reported.



Name of Toy	Juratoys Toy Trolleys
Importer	Juratoys U.S. of Fairfield, N.J.
Original Dates of Sale	September 2012 to March 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$70 - \$100
Why Toy is a Hazard	The toy trolleys can tip backwards, posing an impact injury hazard to children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled trolleys and keep them out of the reach of young children until they have installed a repair kit. Contact Juratoys for a free repair kit that includes instructions, tools, and footers to prevent the toy from tipping backwards.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves four Bricolo by Janod® -push toy trolleys. The French Cocotte Cooker trolley is red with orange wheels and includes a cooktop with fried egg shapes, an oven and eight accessories, including pots and pans "Janod" printed on the side and front of the trolley and J06544 printed on the base of the toy. The DIY-Magnetic trolley is gray and black with red wheels with work station and tools. "Bricolo" is printed on the front of the DIY-Magnetic trolley and J06505 is printed on the base of the toy. The Redmaster-Magnetic DIY trolley is black and gray with red wheels and 21 accessories, including three magnetic tools and a set of gears. J06493 is printed on the base of the toy. The Barbecue trolley is brightly colored and comes with a magnetic spatula, magnetic barbecue fork, one piece of pork, two sausages, one fish, one piece of beef, and three tomatoes. J06523 is printed on the base of the toy. The trolleys measure approximately 17 inches tall and have a 1 foot by 1 foot base.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Juratoys-Recalls-Toy-Trolleys
Recall Date	3/29/17
Number of Units Recalled	9,900
Incidents/Injuries	Juratoys has received two reports of trolleys falling backwards, both resulting in ER visits. One involved a tooth extraction the other a laceration to the child's nose.



Name of Toy	Water-Absorbing Easter and Dino Toys
Importer	Target Corp., of Minneapolis, Minn.
Original Dates of Sale	February 2017 through March 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$1
Why Toy is a Hazard	If the small toy is ingested, it can expand inside a child's body and cause intestinal obstructions, resulting in severe discomfort, vomiting, dehydration and could be life threatening. Surgery is required to remove the toy from the body, if ingested. Medical professionals and parents should be aware that there is a possibility that the toys might not show up on an x-ray.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take this recalled toy away from children and return it to any Target store for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Hatch & Grow Easter Eggs, Easter Grow Toys and Hatch Your Own Dino. Hatch & Grow Easter Eggs and Easter Grow Toys have model number 234-25- 1200 on the back of the product's packaging. Hatch Your Own Dino Egg has model number 234-09-0016 on the label inserted in the product's packaging. The pink, blue, or purple Hatch & Grow Easter Eggs include a white bunny, brown bunny, or butterfly. The Easter Grow Toys include a yellow chick, brown bunny, or white bunny. The Hatch Your Own Dino Eggs are purple or yellow/green and contains one of eleven dinosaurs.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Target-Recalls-Water-Absorbing-Toys
Recall Date	4/13/17
Number of Units Recalled	560,000
Incidents/Injuries	None reported.





Name of Toy	Razor RipStik Electric Motorized Caster Boards
Importer	Razor USA LLC, of Cerritos, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	February 2016 through April 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$180
Why Toy is a Hazard	The rear wheel can stop rotating and lock up while in use, posing a fall hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled caster boards and contact Razor to receive a free repair kit.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Razor RipStik electric motorized caster boards. The boards have two wheels, a hub motor and a lithium ion battery. They have a wireless digital hand remote that controls the speed up to 10 mph. The manufacturing date is on the bar code label located on the bottom of the product and Razor USA LLC is embossed on the bottom. "RipStik" is printed on the top of the board. They are blue and black in color.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Razor-Recalls-RipStik-Motorized-Caster-Boards
Recall Date	4/20/17
Number of Units Recalled	158,000
Incidents/Injuries	Razor has received more than 700 reports of the rear wheel locking up, resulting in four injuries, including one loose tooth and three scrapes and bruises.







Name of Toy	Douglas Plush Toys
Importer	Douglas Company Inc., of Keene, N.H.
Original Dates of Sale	July 2014 through April 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$20
Why Toy is a Hazard	The plastic eyes on the plush toys can detach, posing a choking hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take the recalled plush toys away from young children and contact the firm to receive a free replacement product or a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves the Oliver <sup>™</sup> the Bear, Chewie <sup>™</sup> the English Bulldog, and Charlotte <sup>™</sup> the Fox model plush toys. Oliver the Bear is a brown and tan stuffed bear, with a blue t-shirt that reads "Oliver the Bear" and a red, removable cape. Chewie is a stuffed, brown and white English Bulldog with a blue patch sewn on the chest that reads "Chewie." Charlotte is a stuffed, brown, black and white Fox with removable blue cape. Each of these toys has a sewn-in label with the words "DOUGLAS® the cuddle toy."
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Douglas-Recalls-Plush-Toys
Recall Date	5/17/17
Number of Units Recalled	25,000
Incidents/Injuries	Douglas has received two reports of the plastic eyes detaching or loosening. No injuries have been reported.







Name of Toy	Pulse Krusher Pro Freestyle Scooters
Importer	Bravo Sports, of Sante Fe Springs, Calif.
Manufacturer	Pulse Performance Products, a division of Bravo Sports, of Santa Fe Springs, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	June 2016 through May 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$40
Why Toy is a Hazard	The down tube of the scooter can break, posing a fall hazard to the rider.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled scooters and contact Pulse Performance Products for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Pulse Krusher Pro Freestyle scooters with factory code 083WY, item number 164257 and date code 10-8-2016 or earlier. The factory code, item number and date code can be found on a label printed on the underside of the scooter deck. The 30-inch high scooters were sold in blue and have the words "PULSE PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS" printed on the down tube.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Pulse-Performance-Products-Recalls-Krusher- Scooters
Recall Date	5/19/17
Number of Units Recalled	18,700
Incidents/Injuries	The firm has received 15 reports of the down tube breaking, including two reports of scrapes from falls.



Name of Toy	Dynacraft Ride-On Toys
Importer	Dynacraft BSC Inc., of American Canyon, Calif.
Original Dates of Sale	June 2016 through March 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$150 - \$350
Why Toy is a Hazard	The acceleration pedal on the battery-operated ride-on toys can stick, posing fall and crash hazards.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take the recalled ride-on toys away from children and contact Dynacraft to receive a free replacement foot pedal with installation instructions. Consumers in need of assistance with the repair, can bring the ride-on toy to an authorized service center for a free repair.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves three models of 12V battery-operated ride-on toys, including Surge 12V Camo 4X4, Surge 12V XL Quad and Tonka 12V Mighty Dump trucks. The recalled ride-on toys have model numbers and date codes listed in the table below. The model number, batch number, serial number and the date code , formatted as "MMDDYYYY," are printed on a label on the bottom of the ride-on toy.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Dynacraft-Recalls-Ride-On-Toys
Recall Date	5/23/17
Number of Units Recalled	20,000
Incidents/Injuries	Dynacraft has received 19 reports of pedals sticking, including seven reports of minor injuries; abrasions, cuts and bruises.



Name of Toy	Easter and July 4th Light-Up Spinner Toys
Importer	Hobby Lobby Stores Inc., of Oklahoma City, Okla.
Original Dates of Sale	February 2017 through April 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$5
Why Toy is a Hazard	The battery cover of the Easter and July 4th-themed light-up spinner toys can detach and expose the small coin cell batteries, posing choking and ingestion hazards to young children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take the recalled spinners away from children and return them to the nearest Hobby Lobby or Mardel store. Consumers with a receipt will receive a full refund and consumers without a receipt will receive a store credit.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves children's battery-powered, light-up spinner toys sold in two themes: Easter and July 4th. The Easter-themed toys were sold in blue with a pink bunny on the dome and yellow with a yellow and orange chicken on the dome. The July 4th spinners are red with white stars painted on the blue dome. "Hobby Lobby" and item number 9130033 or 9130082 is printed on the spinner handle. The spinners are powered by three LR44 coin cell batteries.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Hobby-Lobby-Recalls-Easter-and-July-4th-Light-Up- Spinner-Toys
Recall Date	5/23/17
Number of Units Recalled	43,400
Incidents/Injuries	Hobby Lobby has received one report of a 14-month-old child who ingested the battery. An x-ray was conducted and the battery passed through.









Name of Toy	Munching Max Chipmunk Toys
Importer	TOMY International Inc., of Oak Brook, Ill.
Original Dates of Sale	May 2016 through July 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$16
Why Toy is a Hazard	Parts inside the toy can break creating a sharp point that can penetrate the surface of the toy, posing a laceration hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take the recalled toys away from children and contact TOMY International to receive a free replacement toy and a TOMY online store coupon.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Lamaze Munching Max chipmunk stuffed toys with item number L27578. "Tomy," "Lamaze" and the item number are printed on a sewn-in fabric label near the tail of the toy. The stuffed toy is multi-colored with a white clip on the head of the chipmunk. When the clip is pulled, the chipmunk toy vibrates and simulates eating the cloth nut attached to its arm.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/TOMY-Recalls-Munching-Max-Chipmunk-Toys
Recall Date	7/13/17
Number of Units Recalled	9,300
Incidents/Injuries	TOMY International has received one report of a minor laceration injury to a child's hand.



Name of Toy	Winkel Colorburst Activity Toys
Importer	The Manhattan Toy Company LLC, of Minneapolis, Minn.
Original Dates of Sale	May 2015 through September 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$15
Why Toy is a Hazard	The colored plastic tubes on the product can become brittle and break into small pieces, posing a choking hazard to infants.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately take the recalled toys away from infants and return it to the store where purchased or contact Manhattan Toy for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	The Winkel Colorburst teething and activity toy has multi-color plastic tubing inserted into a plastic cube with rattle beads inside. The model number and lot code are printed on the center of the cube and on the hang-tag and product packaging near the UPC code. Only activity balls with the following lot codes are included in this recall: 206880 DH; 206880 EH; 206880 HH; 206871 EH.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Manhattan-Toy-Recalls-Activity-Toys
Recall Date	7/20/17
Number of Units Recalled	14,400
Incidents/Injuries	The firm has received four reports of plastic tubes breaking. No injuries have been reported.



Name of Toy	iRover Self-Balancing Scooters/Hoverboards
Importer	iRover LLC, of Fair Lawn, N.J.
Original Dates of Sale	December 2015 through December 2016
Original Price before Recall	\$300 - \$400
Why Toy is a Hazard	The lithium-ion battery packs in the self-balancing scooters/hoverboards can overheat, posing a risk of smoking, catching fire and/or exploding.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using these recalled scooters/hoverboards and contact iRover for instructions on returning their hoverboard for a free UL2272-certified replacement unit.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves iRover self-balancing scooters, commonly referred to as hoverboards, model numbers 87645 and 87644. Hoverboards have two wheels at either end of a platform and are powered by lithium-ion battery packs. The boards have "iRover" printed on the front outer casing and come in black and white. The model number is listed on the bottom of the unit.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/iRover-Recalls-Self-Balancing-Scooters-Hoverboards
Recall Date	7/24/17
Number of Units Recalled	2,800
Incidents/Injuries	There have been two reports of the battery packs in the recalled self-balancing scooters/ hoverboards smoking and overheating. No injuries or property damage have been reported.



Name of Toy	Panelcraft Children's Magnetic Building Sets
Importer	Panelcraft Inc., of Dearborn, Mich.
Original Dates of Sale	November 2016 through January 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$120 - \$150
Why Toy is a Hazard	The building sets corner welds can break, allowing the panels and frames to separate and release magnets during play. When released, exposed magnets can create a choking hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled building sets and take them away from children. Contact the firm to receive a prepaid shipping label for returning the recalled sets for a free replacement set including shipping.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves two styles of Panelcraft <sup>™</sup> Rainbow magnetic building sets: Rainbow Dream Builder and Rainbow Solid Builder. The solid builder set includes 19 pieces: 11 solid panels in red, yellow, green, blue and purple and 8 white windows that measure 9 inches by 9 inches. The rainbow dream builder set includes 19 windows in red, yellow, green, blue and purple colors that measure 9 inches by 9 inches.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Panelcraft-Recalls-Childrens-Building-Sets
Recall Date	8/1/17
Number of Units Recalled	2,000
Incidents/Injuries	None reported.





Name of Toy	BRIO Soft Hammer Baby Rattle Toys
Importer	Ravensburger North America, of Newton, N.H.
Manufacturer	BRIO, of Sweden
Original Dates of Sale	March 2015 through June 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$13
Why Toy is a Hazard	The wooden rings on the hammer rattles can crack, posing a choking hazard to children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled baby rattles and contact BRIO for instructions on how to receive a full refund or a replacement product of similar value.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves BRIO soft hammer baby rattle toys. They have a wooden handle with a white plastic teething ring at one end and a red, yellow, white and green hammer head at the other end. BRIO is stamped on the hammer head. The rattle is about 5 inches long.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/BRIO-Recalls-Baby-Rattles
Recall Date	8/15/17
Number of Units Recalled	1,500
Incidents/Injuries	BRIO has received seven reports of the wooden ring cracking. No injuries have been reported.





Name of Toy	Itty Bittys Baby Plush Stacking Toys
Importer	Hallmark Marketing Company LLC, of Kansas City, Miss.
Original Dates of Sale	June 2016 through July 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$30
Why Toy is a Hazard	The toys have fabric hats and bows that can detach, posing a choking hazard.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled toys and take them away from children. Contact Hallmark to receive a prepaid shipping label for returning the recalled toy and for a \$40 Hallmark Gold Crown gift card.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves the itty bittys baby Disney-licensed plush animal stacking toys with rattling rings. The toys measure 10 inches by 7.5 inches by 9.5 inches. They have a yellow base stand with a post and four rattling rings that slide on and off the post. The red, blue, pink and purple rings have Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse, and Donald Duck and Daisy Duck characters attached to them. Three of the four Disney-licensed characters are wearing a small plush, fabric hat or bow. The Hallmark logo and "itty bittys" are printed on a sewn-on tag attached to the toy's base.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Hallmark-Recalls-Plush-Baby-Stacking-Toys
Recall Date	8/31/17
Number of Units Recalled	5,800
Incidents/Injuries	Hallmark has received one report of the toy's fabric bow detaching. No injuries have been reported.



Name of Toy	Slap Bracelets sold with Trolls Storybooks
Importer	Studio Fun International Inc., of New York
Original Dates of Sale	September 2016 through August 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$13
Why Toy is a Hazard	The metal band can wear through the fabric covering of the slap bracelet, posing a laceration hazard.
Remedy	The recalled "slap bracelets" were included with "DreamWorks Trolls: It's Hug Time!" children's storybooks. The bracelet consists of an inner, flexible metal band wrapped in a purple fabric covering with a pink fabric flower. The ISBN for the book is 978-0-7944-3840-1 and is printed on the back of the book.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	The recalled "slap bracelets" were included with "DreamWorks Trolls: It's Hug Time!" children's storybooks. The bracelet consists of an inner, flexible metal band wrapped in a purple fabric covering with a pink fabric flower. The ISBN for the book is 978-0-7944-3840-1 and is printed on the back of the book.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Studio-Fun-International-Recalls-Slap-Bracelets- Sold-with-Childrens-Storybooks
Recall Date	9/7/17
Number of Units Recalled	79,000
Incidents/Injuries	There have been five reports of the metal bands wearing through the fabric covering of the bracelet resulting in cuts to hands or fingers.





Name of Toy	Playtex Children's Plates and Bowls
Importer	Playtex Products, LLC, of Shelton, Conn.
Original Dates of Sale	October 2009 through August 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$2.50 - \$15
Why Toy is a Hazard	The clear plastic layer over the graphics can peel or bubble from the surface of the plates and bowls, posing a choking hazard to young children.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled plates and bowls and take them away from young children. Consumers should contact Playtex for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Playtex plates and bowls for children. The plates have various printed designs including cars, construction scenes, giraffes, princesses, superheroes and more. The white polypropylene plates and bowls also have a colored rim on top and a non-slip bottom. Playtex is written on the bottom of the plates and bowls. The plates and bowls were sold separately and together as sets. A Mealtime set is comprised of a plate, a bowl, two utensils and a cup.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Playtex-Recalls-Childrens-Plates-and-Bowls
Recall Date	10/3/17
Number of Units Recalled	3,600,000
Incidents/Injuries	Playtex has received 372 reports of the clear plastic layer over the graphics bubbling or peeling. The firm has received 11 reports of pieces of the detached clear plastic found in children's mouths, including four reports of choking on a piece of the clear plastic layer.





Name of Toy	Bruin Infant Wiggle Ball toys
Importer	Toys "R" Us Inc., of Wayne, N.J.
Original Dates of Sale	June 2016 through January 2017
Original Price before Recall	\$13
Why Toy is a Hazard	The wiggle ball's rubber knobs and plastic back can detach, posing a choking hazard to infants.
Remedy	Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled balls, take them away from babies and return them to Babies "R" Us or Toys "R" Us for a full refund.
How to Tell if Your Toy Might Have Been Recalled	This recall involves Bruin Infant Wiggle Ball toys also called a giggle ball. The blue ball has textured bumps for gripping and has orange, green and yellow rubber knobs around the ball. The ball wiggles, vibrates and plays three different musical tunes. It has an on/ off switch and requires 3 AA batteries to operate. The recalled wiggle balls have model number 5F6342E and Toys "R" Us printed on the product.
CPSC Recall Website	https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Toys-R-Us-Recalls-Infant-Wiggle-Balls
Recall Date	10/5/17
Number of Units Recalled	29,700
Incidents/Injuries	The firm has received six reports of rubber knobs breaking off, including four reports of pieces of the product found in children's mouths.



# Methodology

### **Recalled Toys**

We generated the list of recalled toys from the Consumer Product Safety Commission's database of recalled toys.<sup>71</sup> We searched for recalled products from October 2016 to October 2017 and identified items that could be toys if they are meant for use by children or would be gifted to children. We then looked for the toys through online vendors by searching for them on Internet stores and websites. For the toys we were able to buy, we checked the products to determine if they appeared to be part of the recalled batch.

### Lead Hazards

For testing toys for lead, U.S. PIRG Education Fund staff purchased several fidget spinners at local stores. Fidget spinners were tested for lead content by a CPSCaccredited laboratory. The fidget spinners were analyzed in accordance with CPSC-CH-E1001-8.3 using Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP/MS). The toys that tested for high levels of lead were then re-tested a second time to confirm the results, and the results of the second test are included in this report. The high content of chromium and phthalates in the products we found doesn't necessarily mean that they violate the law, though it is a reason for consumers to worry.

#### Choking hazards

We examined toys for potential choking hazards, looking for the following problems:

- 1.A toy labeled for children under three containing small parts or breaking easily into small parts.
- 2.A toy containing small parts or small balls but intended for children under three.
- 3.A toy containing small parts or small balls and intended for children over three, but lacking the statutory choke hazard warning or having a choke hazard warning that is obscured or too small.
- 4.A toy intended for children under six years that lacks the statutory choke hazard warning and appears to fail the "use and abuse" test, breaking easily into small parts that fit in the choke tube.

We relied on labeling guidelines in ASTM F963-11 to assess compliance with labeling standards. For determining the age of children to whom a particular toy is marketed, we used the CPSC's Age Determination Guidelines regarding size, weight, theme, realism, colors, and level of skill.

# Appendix 1. Potentially Hazardous Toys

# **Toxic Metals: Lead**

Product Name	Fidget Wild Premium Spinner Brass
Label on Toy	14+ (although we believe this toy is intended for children under 12 years and, at the time of testing, the website included a statement that it's for children 6+)
Type of Hazard	Lead
Why Toy Is a Hazard	The center circle tested for 33,000 ppm lead and the arm tested for 22,000 ppm lead.
Manufacturer/Distributor	Bulls i Toy
Item # (if known)	
UPC (if known)	0-97712-53777-1
Store	Target
Price Paid	\$19.99 <b>2 2 2 2 3 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</b>
spinner is also a great stress-relief tool or pla center of the spinner and flick one of the thre	<text></text>
	a pages, Ine spinner will rotate for your nervous or bored energy, so spin away!

Screenshot from online store website

Fidget spinner in Target store

Product Name	Fidget Wild Premium Spinner Metal
Label on Toy	14+ (although we believe this toy is intended for children under 12 years)
Type of Hazard	Lead
Why Toy Is a Hazard	The center circle tested for 1,300 ppm lead and the arm tested for 520 ppm lead.
Manufacturer/Distributor	Bulls i Toy
UPC	0-97629-51843-6
Store	Target
Price Paid	\$9.99



# **Choking Hazards: Small Parts**

Toys with small parts intended for children between the ages of three and six years old must include the following explicit choke hazard warning (a similar warning is required for toys containing small balls or marbles):

WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD-Small parts. Not for children under 3 yrs.

Product Name	Peg Game – Wooden Game
Label on Toy	No age range given; no choke hazard warning
Type of Hazard	Choking – small part
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Pins fit in choke tube
Manufacturer/Distributor	Greenbrier Intl, Inc.
Item # (if known)	186282-19348-001-020117
UPC (if known)	6-39277-01880-9
Store	
Price Paid	\$1

Product Name	Golf – Wooden Game
Label on Toy	No age range given; no choke hazard warning
Type of Hazard	Choking – small part
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Dice and pins fit in choke tube
Manufacturer/Distributor	Greenbrier Intl, Inc.
ltem # (if known)	186282-19348-001-020115
UPC (if known)	6-39277-01880-9
Store	Dollar Tree
Price Paid	\$1

2 player

Product Name	Football – Wooden Game
Label on Toy	No age range given; no choke hazard warning
Type of Hazard	Choking – small part
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Dice and pins fit in choke tube
Manufacturer/Distributor	Greenbrier Intl, Inc.
Item # (if known)	186282-19348-001-020117
UPC (if known)	6-39277-01880-9
Store	Dollar Tree
Price Paid	\$1

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# **Choking Hazard: Balloons**

Product Name	Mega Value Pack 14 Latex Punch Balloons
Label on Toy	Statutory balloon warning (Children under 8 can suffocate), the statutory small parts warning (not for children under 3), and a 3+ label.
Type of Hazard	Choking – balloon
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Balloons are dangerous for children under 8, but this package is labeled for 3+.
Manufacturer/Distributor	Amscan
Item # (if known)	392656
UPC (if known)	0-48419-93287-1
Store	Party City
Price Paid	\$5.99





Product Name	Mega Value Pack 12 Water Bomb Packs
Label on Toy	Statutory balloon warning (Children under 8 can suffocate), the statutory small parts warning (not for children under 3), and a 3+ label.
Type of Hazard	Choking – balloon
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Balloons are dangerous for children under 8, but this package is labeled for 3+.
Manufacturer/Distributor	Amscan
ltem # (if known)	391768
UPC (if known)	0-48419-68351-3
Store	Party City
Price Paid	\$7.99





Product Name	Disney Princess Punchball Balloons							
Label on Toy	Statutory balloon warning (Children under 8 can suffocate), and a 3+ label.							
Type of Hazard	Choking – balloon							
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Balloons are dangerous for children under 8, but this package is labeled for 3+.							
Manufacturer/Distributor	Greenbrier International, Inc.							
Item # (if known)	225946-09510-017-082117							
UPC (if known)	0-48419-73408-6							
Store	Dollar Tree							
Price Paid	\$1							





Product Name	H2O Blasters – Water Balloons								
Label on Toy	Statutory balloon warning (Children under 8 can suffocate), and the statutory small parts warning (not for children under 3)								
Type of Hazard	Choking – balloon								
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Although this balloon set doesn't have the "3+" label, the statutory small parts warning saying it's not for children under 3 make it confusing and parents might see that label and think it's appropriate for children 3 and above. However, balloons are dangerous for children under 8.								
Manufacturer/Distributor	Greenbrier International, Inc.								
Item # (if known)	177685-24472-001-101816								
UPC (if known)	6-39277-77685-3								
Store	Dollar Tree								
Price Paid	\$1								





Product Name	Party Balloons - 10							
Label on Toy	The statutory small parts warning (not for children under 3)							
Type of Hazard	Choking – balloon							
Why Toy Is a Hazard	Balloons are dangerous for children under 8, but this package only contains the small parts warning label that it's not for children under 3. It does not contain the statutory balloon warning (Children under 8 can suffocate).							
Manufacturer/Distributor	NA							
ltem # (if known)	HW858							
UPC (if known)	NA							
Store	Dollar City Plus							
Price Paid	\$1.49							





# **Data-Collecting Toys**

Product Name	My Friend Cayla (Brunette or Blonde)							
Label on Toy	Choking hazard small parts (not for children under 3 years), and 4+ label							
Type of Hazard	Data collection – child privacy concerns							
Why Toy Is a Hazard	The doll can collect data which may pose a children's privacy law violation							
Manufacturer/Distributor	Genesis							
UPC (if known)	0-26753-05660 (Brunette) & 0-26753-01242-8 (Blonde)							
Store	Kohl's (Brunette) and Walmart (Blonde)							
Price Paid	\$39.99 (Brunette) and \$27.90 (Blonde)							





# Appendix 2. Reported Toy-Related Deaths, 2001-2015

## Toy-Related Deaths in Children Younger than 15, 2001-201572

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2001- 2015 total
Choking/ Asphyxiation																
Balloons	4	3	3	3	2	3	4	2	2	5	5	3	2	3	1	45
Marbles/ Rubber balls/ other small ball	1	2	5	4	9	4	5	2	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	37
Toy or Toy Part	3	3	3	2	0	5	1	1	2	2	0	3	4	2	1	32
Sub-total	8	8	11	9	11	12	10	5	4	10	5	7	7	5	2	114
Riding Toys, Scooters, Tricycles	13	5	0	5	8	11	8	10	8	1	5	7	2	8	5	96
Toy Boxes	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	NA	NA	NA	7
Other	2	0	0	8	7	5	6	9	4	6	8	1	3	3	4	66
Total	25	13	11	22	26	28	24	25	17	19	19	15	12	16	11	283
% Choking/Asphyxia	32%	62%	100%	41%	42%	43%	42%	20%	24%	53%	26%	47%	58%	31%	18%	40%

# Appendix 3. CPSC Characteristics of Toys for Children Under Three

he following are some general characteristics that make toys appealing to children under three.

**Size and Weight:** Small and light-weight, easy to handle.

Theme: Represents a common object found around the home, farm, or neighborhood.

**Degree of Realism:** Silly or cute, some realistic details.

**Colors:** Bright, contrasting colors covering large areas of the toy.

**Noisemaking:** Not loud or frightening. **Action and Movement:** May be silly, should be easy for child to cause movement.

**Type and level of skill:** Lets child begin to learn skills or practice skills such as walking, stacking, and sorting; should be slightly beyond child's capabilities to maintain interest.

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# NYPIRG Trouble In Toyland Survey Results Fall 2017

<u>A. Balloons/Labeling & Choking Hazards -</u> The balloons below have misleading labels because they have both 8+ and 3+ labels. Balloons pose a choking hazard for children under 8.

- 1. 12 Water Bomb Packs Mega Value Pack
- 2. 14 Latex Punch Balloons Mega Value Pack
- 3. H2O Blasters Water Balloons
- 4. Disney Princess Punchball Balloons

**<u>B. Choking Hazard -</u>** The toys below contain small parts that fit in the choke test tube, but do not have the small parts 3+ warning label, and we believe they can be intended for a child 6 and under.

- 1. Peg Game
- 2. Football Game
- 3. Golf Game

<u>**C. Toxic Lead Hazards in Fidget Spinners -**</u> The fidget spinner below contained extremely high levels of lead (federal limit for toys is 100 ppm).

1. Fidget Wild Premium Spinner Brass

**D. Child Privacy Issue Toys -** These toys record and store audio and may be vulnerable to hacking, posing privacy and security hazards.

- 1. My Friend Cayla Party Time Blond Doll
- 2. My Friend Cayla Brunette Talking Party Time Doll

# **BALLOON/LABELING & CHOKING HAZARDS**

### 1- Product Name: <u>12 Water Bomb Packs – Mega Value Pack</u>

Manufactured by: Amscon Age on toy if any: Ages 3+ Retailer where already found: Party City Type of Hazard: Choking Cost: \$8 Toy Found: Party City (Buffalo, Flatbush, New Hyde Park, Port Chester, Syracuse, Upper East Side)



2- Product Name: <u>14 Latex Punch Balloons – Mega Value Pack</u> Manufactured by: Amscon Age on toy if any: Ages 3+ Retailer where already found: Party City Type of Hazard: Choking Cost: \$6

**Toy Found:** Family Dollar (Cortland), Party City (Buffalo, Carle Place, Downtown Brooklyn, Oceanside, Port Chester, Syracuse, West Harlem)





## 3- Product Name: <u>H2O Blasters - Water Balloons</u>

Age on toy if any: Ages 3+

**Retailer where already found:** Dollar Tree (in balloon aisle) **Type of Hazard**: Choking

**Cost:** \$1

**Toy Found:** 99 Cents And Up (Jackson Heights), 99 Cents Paradise (Woodside), Dollar Tree (Buffalo, Syracuse, West Hempstead, White Plains), Family Dollar (Cortland)





4- Product Name: <u>Disney Princess – Punchball Balloons</u>
Age on toy if any: Ages 3+
Retailer where already found: Dollar Tree (in balloon aisle)
Type of Hazard: Choking
Cost: \$1
Toy Found: Dollar Tree (Buffalo, Flatbush), Family Dollar (Cortland),

Party City (W 230<sup>th</sup> St Bronx), Rite Aid (Cortland)





## **CHOKING HAZARD**

1- Product Name: <u>Peg Game</u> Age on toy if any: Retailer where already found: Dollar Tree Type of Hazard: Choking Cost: \$1

**Toy Found**: Dollar Tree (Bellrose, Brownsville, Cortland, Elmont, Flatbush, Garden City, Hamilton Heights, Harlem, North Buffalo, Syracuse, W 234<sup>th</sup> St Bronx, West Harlem, West Hempstead, White Plains, Woodside)



## 2- Product Name: Football Game Age on toy if any: Retailer where already found: Dollar Tree Type of Hazard: Choking Cost: \$1 Toy Found: Dollar Tree (Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville, Cortland, Elmont, Flatbush, Garden City, Hamilton Heights, Harlem, North Buffalo, Syracuse, W 234<sup>th</sup> St Bronx, West Harlem, White Plains)



3- Product Name: <u>Golf Game</u>
Age on toy if any:
Retailer where already found: Dollar Tree (in toy aisle)
Type of Hazard: Choking
Cost: \$1
Toy Found: Dollar Mart NY INC (Flushing), Dollar Tree

**Toy Found**: Dollar Mart NY INC (Flushing), Dollar Tree (Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville, Cortland, Elmont, Flatbush, Garden City, Hamilton Heights, Harlem, North Buffalo, Syracuse, W 234<sup>th</sup> St Bronx, West Harlem, White Plains)



## **TOXIC LEAD HAZARD**

1- Product Name: Fidget Wild Premium Spinner Brass Age on toy if any: 14+ Retailer where already found: Target Type of Hazard: Approx. 33,000 ppm lead Cost: \$20 plus shipping Toy Found: Dollar Mart NY INC (Flushing), and online at https://www.target.com/p/fidget-wild-spinner-premium-brass/-/A-52702329



## **CHILD PRIVACY HAZARD**

1- Product Name: <u>My Friend Cayla Party Time Blonde Doll</u> Age on toy if any: Retailer where already found: Walmart.com <u>https://www.walmart.com/ip/My-Friend-Cayla-Party-Time-Blonde/52037964?wmlspartner=wlpa&selectedSellerId=291</u> Type of Hazard: Privacy Cost: \$28 plus shipping Toy Found: Walmart.com



2- Product Name: <u>My Friend Cayla Brunette Talking Party Time Doll</u> Age on toy if any: Retailer where already found: Kohls.com <u>https://www.kohls.com/product/prd-2584405/my-friend-cayla-brunette-talking-party-time-doll.jsp</u> Hazard: Privacy Cost: \$39.99 plus shipping Toy Found: Kohls.com

