Fire

- Make sure your smoke alarms are working properly. Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Try to use smoke alarms with 10-year batteries.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn, and always blow them out when you leave the room or before you go to sleep. Do not allow kids to use candles in their bedrooms.
- Limit distractions when cooking and do not leave a hot oven or stovetop unattended.
- Have a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of emergency, and make sure you know how it works.
- Practice feeling the door, doorknob and cracks around the door with the back of your hand to see if they are too hot with your family. In case of a real fire, this will be an important skill.
- Have your family plan and practice a home fire escape plan with two paths out of your house in case of a fire. It is important to have an alternate exit in case one is blocked by fire.
- Choose a place to meet outside that is a safe distance away from your home in case of a fire.
- If you cannot safely escape your home or apartment in a fire, keep smoke out of the room by covering vents and cracks around the door and call 911 or your fire department as quickly as possible. Then signal for help at the window with a light-colored cloth or a flashlight.

Earthquake

- Build an emergency kit filled with basic items you would need during an emergency.
- Make a family communication plan including a contact card for each member of the family, an out-of-state emergency contact, and plans in case certain forms of communication do not work during the emergency.
- Securely fasten shelves to walls.
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Store breakable items such as bottled foods, glass, and china as well as store weed killers, pesticides, and flammable products in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- Fasten heavy items such as pictures and mirrors securely to walls and away from beds and couches.
- Brace overhead light fixtures and top heavy objects.
- Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections with appropriate professional help. These are potential fire risks.
- Install flexible pipe fittings to avoid gas or water leaks. Flexible fittings are more resistant to breakage.
- Secure your water heater, refrigerator, furnace and gas appliances by strapping them to the wall studs and bolting to the floor. If recommended by your gas company, have an automatic gas shut-off valve installed that is triggered by strong vibrations.
- Repair any deep cracks in ceilings or foundations. Get expert advice if there are signs of structural defects.
- Be sure your home is firmly anchored to its foundation.
- Locate safe spots in each room under a sturdy table or against an inside wall. Reinforce this information by moving to these places during each drill.
- Hold earthquake drills with your family members: Drop, cover and hold on.
Poison

- Store all household products, including bleach, detergents, dishwashing liquid and cleaning solutions out of children’s sight and reach, or use safety locks on cabinets within reach. Remember that the storage cabinets under sinks are often at the eye level of young kids.
- Read product labels to find out what can be hazardous to kids. Makeup, personal care products, plants, pesticides, lead, art supplies, alcohol and carbon monoxide are all dangerous.
- Never place a poisonous item in something other than its original container to avoid any mistakes or misuse.
- Program the toll-free Poison Help Number, 1-800-222-1222 into your home and cell phone. Also place the number on your refrigerator or another place where it will be easily accessible to babysitters and caregivers. This number should also be used in case of a medication emergency.

Medication

- Put all medication away and out of sight of children, including your own. This includes such items as eye drops, vitamins, and diaper rash remedies. Consider placing in high cabinets that can lock, especially if you have young children.
- Use the dosing device that comes with the medication and follow dosing instructions.

Carbon Monoxide

- Make sure your home has a carbon monoxide alarm.
- As with smoke alarms, install a carbon monoxide alarm on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas, and keep them at least 15 feet away from fuel-burning appliances.
- Don’t use a grill, generator or camping stove inside your home, garage or near a window.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Don’t leave a car, SUV or motorcycle engine running inside a garage.
- If using gasoline-powered devices, store gasoline in a locked location where children cannot access it. Keep only small quantities in an approved container that has child safety features.
- Keep gasoline away from any source of heat, spark or flame. Even common household appliances such as water heaters and clothes dryers can start a gasoline fire. Be sure to store your gasoline away from anything that could ignite it.

Important Note:
Review all emergency procedures and contacts with all of your children’s caregivers.

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Gun Safety
• Store guns in a locked location, unloaded, out of the reach and sight of children.
• Store ammunition in a separate locked location, out of the reach and sight of children.
• Keep the keys and combinations hidden.
• When a gun is not in its lock box, keep it in your line of sight.
• Make sure all guns are equipped with effective, child-resistant gun locks.
• If a visitor has a gun in a backpack, briefcase, handbag or an unlocked car, provide them with a locked place to hold it while they are in your home.

Stranger Safety
• Teach your child never go anywhere with, take gifts from, or talk to strangers.
• Place your child in meaningful and captivating after school activities.
• Child trafficking is a serious issue. Teach your children about the methods many traffickers use to lure in children.
• Talk to your children about their online privacy. Many traffickers and abductors are using the internet to gain the trust of children.

Preventing TV and Furniture Tip-Overs
• Mount flat-screen TVs to the wall to prevent them from toppling off stands. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions to ensure that you have a secure fit.
• If you have a large, heavy, old-style cathode ray tube (CRT) TV, place it on a low, stable piece of furniture. If you no longer use your CRT TV, consider recycling it.
• Use brackets, braces or wall straps to secure unstable or top-heavy furniture to the wall.