

What

BIGGER

Kids can do



Home accidents are one of the leading causes of death in children. Unfortunately, many of these deaths occur with children who are much too young to teach safety too.

A toddler dies after his sister feeds him a mouthful of lemon drops. A two year old sneaks out the front door after his older brother leaves it open. He is hit just seconds later by a car when trying to catch up with his brother who is walking down the road to a friend's house. A curious 3 year old wants to see what mommy is cooking and pulls a pot of boiling water on top of her head. She later dies in a hospital from her injuries. Stories like these happen millions of times over the year in this country. In several thousand instances, they will become fatal.

The fact is, even the best parents can get distracted, and it only takes a second. This book teaches kids how to be the extra eyes and ears for safety with littler kids. In doing so, it also covers many safety aspects that they themselves need to learn. In most situations, there is often an older child around who could have prevented the accident if they knew what was dangerous, or what to look for. This book attempts to train all children, from ages 3 or 4 on up, how to be more safety conscious and become extra eyes and ears around the house, especially when playing with their younger siblings.



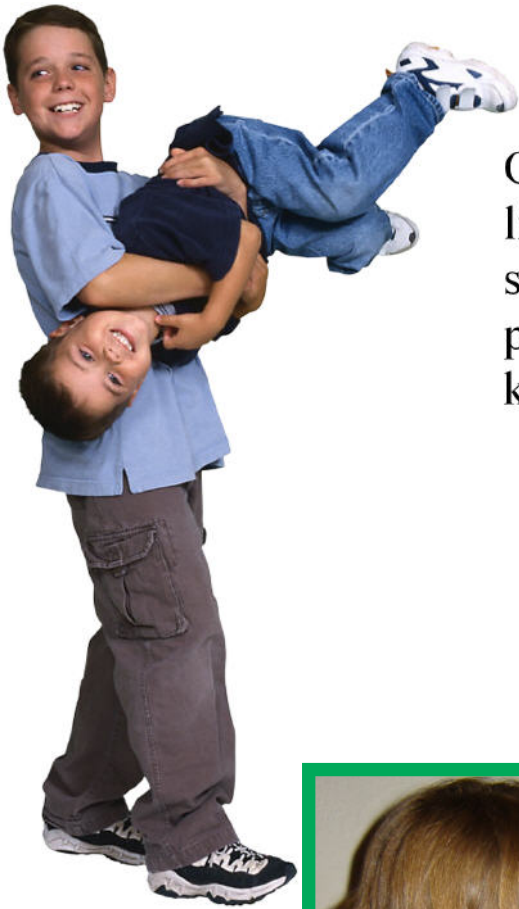
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Are
You
Bigger?



You look pretty big to me. How old are you? Do you have any little brothers or sisters? Even if you don't, this is still an important book to read. Whether you are 4 years old, or 7 years old, or 10 years old, or 1,243 years old, you might be a bigger kid to someone you know.



One of your friends might have a little brother or sister. Or you might see little kids when you go out to play. So it's important for **EVERY** kid to learn how to be a bigger kid.



Little kids are great for so many things. They're fun to play with. You can dress them up to look quite ridiculous. You can watch them eat Basketti.



They are wonderful to have around when you need a scapegoat to blame stuff on. They are also great just to hang out with and be a bigger kid with. But being bigger also means more responsibilities. One of the things that bigger kids do is they help keep the little kids safe.



They look out for them, and care for their wellbeing. Little kids can get into stuff in the blink of an eye. In fact, if you close your eyes ...whoops, there it happened. That's enough time for a little kid to get themselves in trouble.

There are so many things that can hurt kids. Kids can get burned. They can drown. They can get electrocuted. They can get poisoned. They can choke. They can get run over. It happens every day, and it happens to many kids many times a day, all over the country. So let's learn how bigger kids can help keep things safe for little kids.



Bigger kids know not to leave their toys laying around that are too little for a baby brother or sister.



Bigger kids know that little kids put stuff in their mouth. That's why they know to keep baby's area clean. They don't bring toys or candy or other little things into baby's room. Bigger kids also know not to leave their toys laying around that are too little for a baby brother or sister. If they ever see a little kid with something they can choke on, they take it away. Are you bigger like that?

Bigger kids know what things you don't give to little kids. For instance, candy. Candy is awesome, but it's for older kids. Little kids can sometimes choke on it. Some types of candy can be very dangerous to little kids. We need to check with an adult first before we give littler kids any food. Here are some other things little kids can choke on....



Hot dogs, grapes, nuts, and even some types of fruits with seeds in them are not OK, because they are nice and round and great for choking on. These things need to be cut up before they are given to a little kid. We have a grown-up cut them up so littler kids won't choke. Sometimes bigger kids can kill little kids because they accidentally give little kids something they are too young for. So always make sure it is OK by asking an adult before giving anything to a little kid.



There are lots of other little things that little kids can choke on. If it is smaller than this circle, they can put it in their mouth and choke on it. Can you guess which items are Ok for little kids to play with? Which ones aren't?



If there is ever trouble around, bigger kids also know what number they can call to get help. Do you know that number? That's right, 9-1-1. This is a number kids can call in an emergency to get help. Kids have used this number many times before to get help quickly and save lives, so remember it.



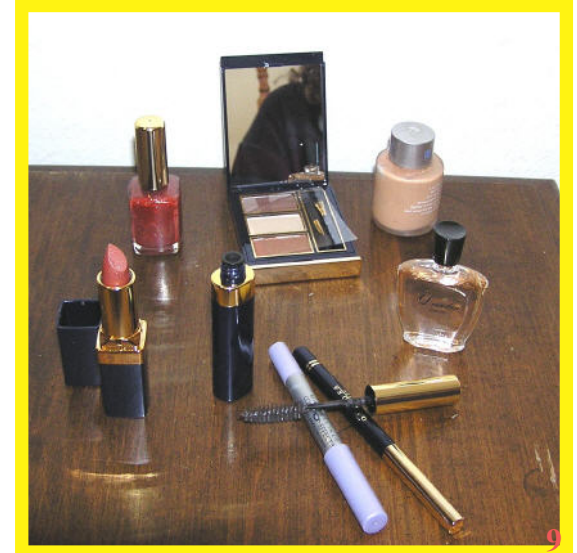
Just make sure you only use this number in an emergency. It is not to play around with. If we do, firefighters and safety rescue workers have to get all dressed up and go out to your house for nothing. Then they get mad. You don't want to make a firefighter mad, do you?

Bigger kids know that little kids like to get into things. That's just the way little kids are. They like to explore. They like to learn about the things around them. But bigger kids know there are certain things little kids can't play with. Like plastic bags or balloons. These may seem like harmless fun, but they are actually dangerous. Little kids can put the plastic bags over their head and suffocate. Or they could chew on them and end up choking on the plastic. And balloons, **everyone** needs to be careful with balloons, because if you accidentally swallow or choke on one, balloons are nearly impossible to get out of your throat, and you won't be able to breathe.



Bigger kids know what things around them are poisonous for little kids. Like toothpaste. Toothpaste is great for brushing your teeth with, but one of the ingredients in it is poisonous if you swallow it. If you swallow just a little it may make your tummy hurt. But if you swallow a lot it could kill you.

Or shaving cream. Shaving cream is fun to play with at school, but it is poisonous if you try to eat it. Or make-up. Not only could little kids be allergic to it, and get a skin rash from it, but it is also poisonous if they try to eat it. And sometimes make-up can look just like candy to a little kid. Or outside the house, there are probably many plants, like mushrooms and other leaves, that are dangerous. If bigger kids see little kids putting these in their mouth, they know to take them away.



There are lots of more obvious poisons around the house. Like medicine. Medicine is great, IF you are sick. But taking too much, even a little too much, can be very, very bad. Or Alcohol. Alcohol is a poison. Adults need to drink it very carefully so they don't drink too much. But kids could die from it, because their bodies aren't quite ready for it yet.



And of course, there is also the things your mom and dad clean with, or the things they put in their garden. These all are poisonous, because they all have chemicals in them. These are all things that bigger kids know are poison. Uh oh!!

Baby Joey is getting into things he shouldn't be. What do you think we need to do as bigger kids?

Bigger kids know that there are many things around the house that can be dangerous. Like water. Little kids can drown even in toilets, because they fall in and don't have the muscle to get back out. So bigger kids know to always keep the door shut behind them after using the bathroom.



Or electricity. Not only is there electricity in the outlets, but it's also running through the chords to the appliances. Bigger kids know how dangerous electricity is, and they know to keep an eye out to make sure that little kids don't get into it. Little kids might try to play with the sockets on the wall. Or they might chew on the chords to electrical appliances. If you ever see this, bigger kids know to stop that little kid and tell mom or dad right away. Tell me, are you bigger like that?

Uh oh, mommy left the pot on the stove with the handle out. Baby Joey is heading over that way. Let's grab baby Joey quick and remind mother so that she can turn the handles in or put them on the back burner so the baby doesn't try to grab them.



Uh oh! The knife that mommy was cutting with got left out. And here's something else ... Daddy set his coffee out where baby can reach it. That coffee is **hot** and could burn any kid badly. Let's keep baby away and remind mom and dad to put that stuff in a better place. And oh oh ... The dishwasher is open! It has sharp thing like knives inside, but that's not all. Many little kids have died because they climb inside and shut the door. Let's make sure we close that.

Falls are another thing that bigger kids know can hurt or kill little kids. Not only falls from things, but things falling onto them. Little kids like to pull on things. They could pull on a chord, and dangerous things like a radio, or even a coffee maker could fall onto them. Or, they might decide to climb up onto a shelf, and it could fall.



Being bigger means keeping an eye out for littler kids around places where they could fall. Like from a porch, or out a window, or even down a stairs.

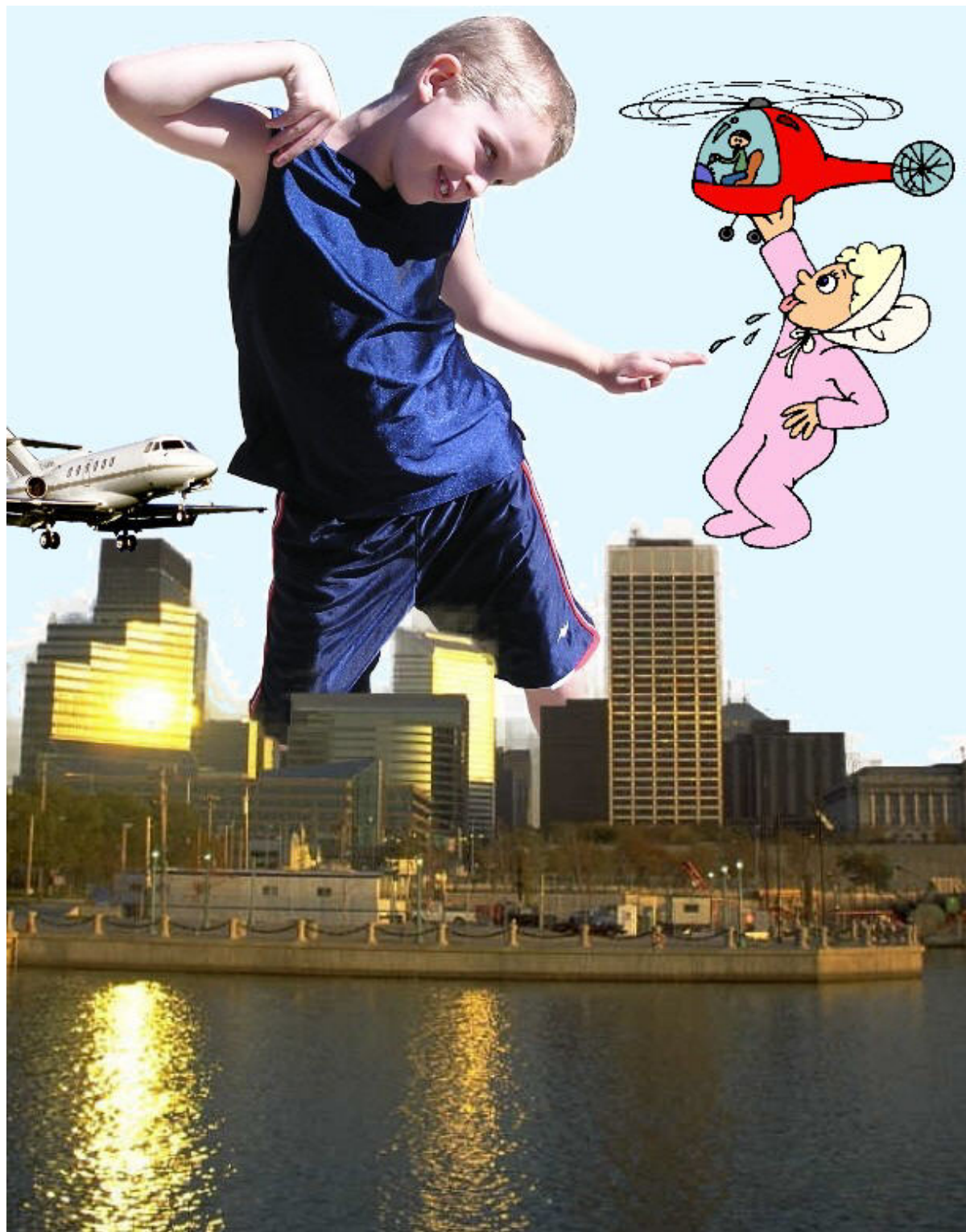
Uh Oh! Quick! Baby Joey is trying to make a run for it over the safety gate. Get that Baby quick!



Here's an important one: when bigger kids head out to play they know to always make sure they shut the outside doors behind them, so littler kids don't end up outside where they aren't supposed to be without anyone knowing. Bigger kids also keep an extra eye on littler kids when they are outside, to make sure they don't wander into something that would be dangerous... Like parking lots, streets, or water.



Bigger kids know how to play with younger kids. They know not to do things like run around the house, or play with sharp things. They know that there are just way too many things inside the house to fall and split a head open on, or poke an eye out with. They know not to get too rough with littler kids. And one other thing bigger kids can do that is a little harder, but your mom and dad will really like, is when it comes to arguments with littler kids, be the bigger kid and walk away. Get an adult if you need help to work it out. And do your best to be the bigger kid and not get into an argument.



It's a good thing that you're bigger. Little kids look up to you and admire you because you're bigger, so make sure you set a good safety example for them. Someday, you'll even become biggest. I'm glad you read all the way through this book and learned how to be a bigger kid for those littler kids around you. Man, are you getting big!

The End!

