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PREVENTION IS THE FIRST STEP TO RESCUE.

FIRE & BURNS HANDBOOK

..... FOR

**Parents &
Children**

ונשמרתם מאד לנפשותיכם



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This handbook was created by the
TORAH SAFETY COMMISSION to guide parents
and children in the various aspects of living safely
and protecting themselves from harm.

The Torah Safety Commission was inspired by
the teachings of **HORAV AVIGDOR MILLER**, זצוק"ל

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TORAH SAFETY COMMISSION
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BOOKLET PRODUCED AND DESIGNED BY GOLDING DESIGN

Safety: A Lesson for Life

Teachers. Parents. By definition, people who teach. By trade, the most important individuals in the life of a child.

As teachers and parents, we are in the perfect position to mold the minds of children; to teach them what needs be taught, and to help them from one stage of life to another. Then ask yourself, if indeed, that is the job of every teacher, and parent, are we teaching our precious children enough about 'Safety'?

In Flatbush, a group of unsupervised young Yeshivah boys were enjoying a quick game of basketball before the recess bell, when the ball went rogue and hit a boy directly on his head. The boy, who was caught unaware, was knocked to the concrete, where he lay motionless. The eleven year olds surrounded their fallen friend rushed to his aid. They were frightened, confused, and unsure of what to do. Some tried to help the boy up, while others retrieved his Yarmulke, and tried to see if he was bleeding.

In Boro Park, during lunch at a school, a young girl was passing out hot plates of soup when one plate tipped over onto her fellow classmate, a first grader. Before the teacher even noticed something was amiss, her giggling classmates were offering her paper towels and getting her more soup...

In Williamsburg, a third grade boy tried to swallow a round candy that his teacher had given him as a reward for completing an assignment. He couldn't get the candy down, and he couldn't get it back up. His classmates watched in shock as he began to turn blue. Baruch Hashem, his Rebbe was very quick to respond. But ask yourself; is there always a Rebbe that close to every child with a round candy?

PANEL NUMBERS

- 1** Cooking Safety
- 2** Hot Foods
- 3** Kitchen
- 4** Appliances
- 5** Caution
- 6** Microwave
- 7** Baby Bottles
- 8** Bathroom Safety
- 9** Flammable Liquids
- 10** Hot Water Urns
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- 24** Barbecue Equipment
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There was a crucial moment in each of these instances when tragedy could have been averted or avoided altogether. Unfortunately in some of those cases, they were not. Because the first ones on the scene were unsure of what to do.

And who were the first responders in those cases? Our children.

That's right, our children are, in most cases, the first ones on hand when things go awry. Consequently, if we teach our children safety, we are directly avoiding future calamity.

Just imagine a five-minute lesson about burns to a class:

"Children: Never, never handle hot items on your own! Always call for an adult's assistance if you need some help. If, chas v'shalom, hot liquid spills on you or anyone you know, go directly to a sink or a toilet bowl and immerse the burn in cold water and STAY there, and have someone else call an adult."

That was ONE minute. And in ONE minute, 30 students learned how to take a burn from a THIRD DEGREE BURN which requires a hospital stay, and sometimes even skin grafts, to a first degree burn, on their own. And for the rest of their lives, this information will serve them, and everyone around them. It will literally save them.

What about concussions on a basketball court? A slip and a fall? A tumble down steps? Do our children understand on their own not to move the child? To run for help? To pay attention to signs that say 'Slippery When Wet'? Of course not. It's up to us to take those FIVE MINUTES a week to teach them.

Believe it or not, even more important than teaching children what to do in an emergency situation, it is absolutely crucial that we teach children how to PREVENT these things from happening in the first place. Avoiding hot liquids on their own. Not playing outdoors unsupervised. Saying "No" to round candies and little super-balls altogether. And these important lessons will forever be to their benefit.

As parents and teachers, by introducing a different topic each week, we give our children the ammunition they need to stay safe and, in the unfortunate event that something is amiss, to be the very best 'first responders' they could be. Do any of the popular safety tips and topics NOT apply to children?

Helmet Safety

Bike Riding Safety

Burn Safety

Choking Safety

Fire Safety

Be a Hero!! Save a Life Today!! Teach Children SAFETY!

The Torah Safety Commission has long recognized the importance of making Safety a priority for children the world over. They have plastered their messages on cereal boxes, snacks and other child-friendly items, but it's just not enough. It is up to me and you, and everyone else who comes into contact with children on a daily basis to take the time to teach children the difference between a playful neighbor and a dangerous predator. Because if we don't, we risk our most precious resource; our beloved children.



COOKING SAFETY

DO NOT leave pot handles extending over the stove.

DO NOT cook with a flame that extends beyond the bottom of the pot.

DO NOT congregate in the kitchen!

ALWAYS try to use the back burners first.



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לזכר נשמת הרב דוד בנימין בן נתן ז"ל
RABBI DOVID B. PRICE ז"ל

Principal of Prospect Park Yeshiva and Hatzolah of Flatbush Coordinator
who dedicated his life to the teachings of Torah

יהי זכרו ברוך

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SAFETY MESSAGES
הצלה
FROM
"ונשמרתם מאד"

HOT FOODS

NEVER serve or pass anything hot over a child or anyone else. Serve from a side of the person.

NEVER serve hot foods or drinks to children until they have sufficiently cooled.

DO NOT drink hot liquids while holding a child.

NEVER place hot liquids or foods near the edge of the table or the counter.



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SAFETY MESSAGES
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KITCHEN

DO NOT wear plastic aprons! Keep all flammable materials away from oven, gas ranges, and other sources of heat.

DO NOT store salt, pepper, and other spice containers on top of the stove.

NEVER place a high chair or

playpen near the gas range, oven or hot water urn.

NEVER leave a stool or chair near the gas range.



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APPLIANCES

NEVER leave a heat producing appliance, such as a toaster oven, plugged in when not in use.

NEVER overload an electrical socket with more plugs than it was made for.

Electrical outlets not in use should be covered with "child safety covers".

DO NOT iron clothes when young children are around. Always unplug the iron immediately and store it out of sight.



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CAUTION

NEVER leave your house with the stove or oven on.

NEVER leave children unattended with burning candles or unlit matches.

Teach your children at an early age what "HOT" means.

Teach them to stay away from fires, stoves, matches, etc.



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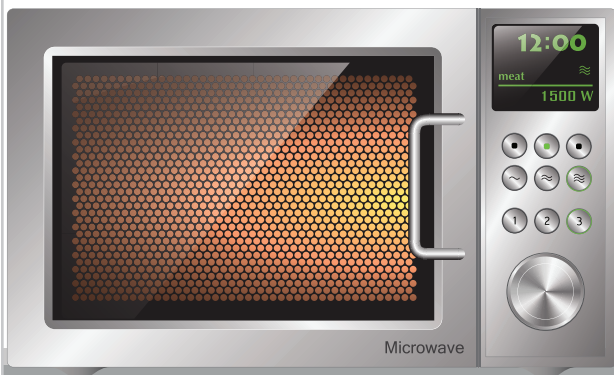
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MICROWAVE

MICROWAVE OVENS are a time saver but heat food unevenly. The food container may only feel warm to your touch but the food inside could be hot enough to cause a serious burn.

Mix all microwave heated foods thoroughly, then test their temperature *first* before serving them to your child.



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BABY BOTTLES

BABY BOTTLES should *not* be warmed in the microwave.

Heat the bottle in a container of hot water in the sink, shake it and then test the temperature on your wrist before feeding to your baby.



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BATHROOM SAFETY

CHECK the temperature setting of the hot water in your home. Lower the temperature to 120 degrees (Fahrenheit) or ask your superintendent to do so.

WHEN preparing a bath for your child, run the cold water into the bathtub first, then add the hot water until the bath water feels warm.

TEST the bath water by moving your elbow or wrist through the water before placing your child in the tub.



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FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

DO NOT use benzene, kerosene, or anything flammable in a room that has any kind of flame in it - even just a pilot light.



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HOT WATER URNS

If you need to use a hot water urn, buy one that has the lowest temperature level.

NEVER leave the spout where children can reach it.

NEVER use an extension cord with a water urn.

ALWAYS place the hot water urn as far back as possible from the counter or table.



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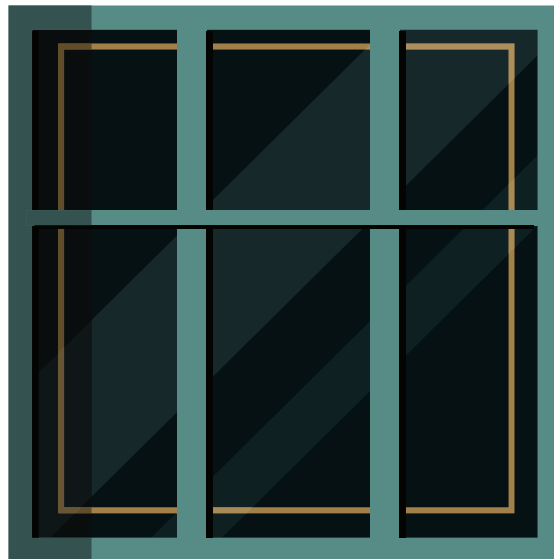
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WINDOW BARS

Use only fire-safety window bars.

WINDOW SECURITY BARS must be able to be opened easily and quickly in case of a fire.



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CAUGHT ON FIRE

If someone is actually caught on fire, **DO NOT** run.

Remember:

STOP-Stay where you are

DROP-to the floor

ROLL-QUICKLY and
VIGOROUSLY back and forth
on the floor until the fire has
been put out.



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CHEMICAL BURNS

FLUSH with large amounts
of continuous running cool
water for 20-30 minutes.

If the eyes are affected,
continue to flush with
COOL WATER until medical
help arrives.



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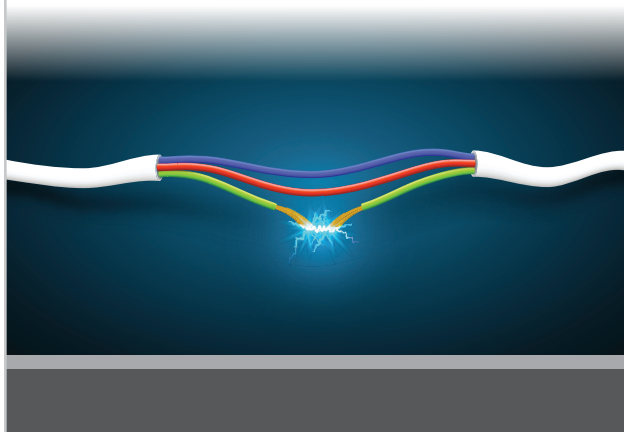
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ELECTRICAL BURNS

SHUT OFF the electrical source
before touching the person.

CHECK for breathing and pulse,
and if none - start C.P.R.

CALL for emergency help
immediately



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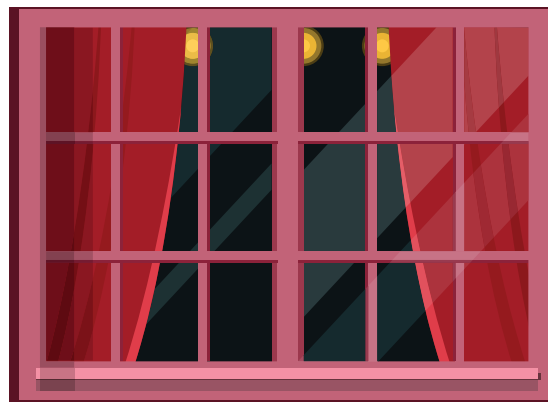
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WINDOWS

CHECK that all windows and
screens are easy to open.

INSTRUCT CHILDREN how to
break a window safely with an
item in their room and how to
cover the remaining glass with a
blanket to avoid injury.



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ILLUMINATION

NEVER sleep in a completely darkened house.

There should be some illumination in hallways, bathrooms, staircases, kitchens, and by each telephone.



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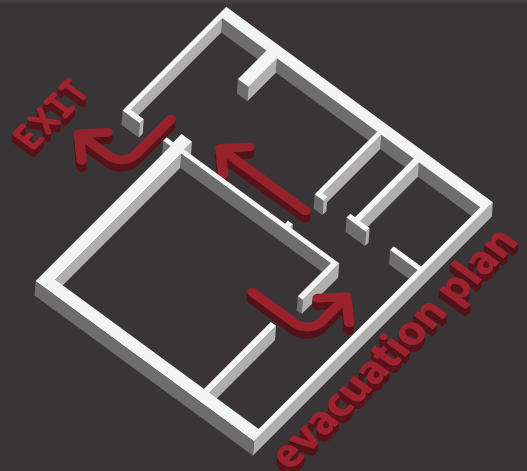
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EVACUATE

When a more-than-minor fire breaks out **EVACUATE** the premises immediately.

DO NOT stop to call for help, or to get any valuables.



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HOT DRINKS

ALWAYS use a saucer or larger plate, as a protection underneath, when carrying hot liquids (such as hot soup, coffee, tea, etc.)



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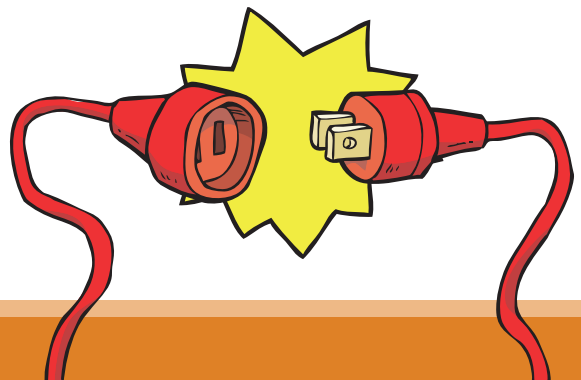
CHECK YOUR HOME

CHECK your home for frayed wires, electric cords and plugs! They must be replaced immediately.

Bulbs and fuses should have correct wattage.

Wires should not be left running under a rug.

It is most **IMPORTANT** to have the proper wiring and proper kind of outlets for your air conditioners.



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FLAMMABLES

REMOVE all flammable materials away from the home heating system, hot water unit, ovens and gas ranges.

DO NOT keep cartons with old clothes or other unused articles resting on these appliances.



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OVENS

When lighting a gas oven or stove, **ALWAYS** stand to the side.

When opening the oven to check the food, stand to the side.

BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL with vegetables such as eggplant and squash (which can explode if not properly pierced).



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ELECTRIC HEATERS

Electric heaters can be dangerous.

BE SURE your heater is in good working condition before plugging it in.

DO NOT place a heater near curtains or other flammable materials.

NEVER use a heater to dry wet clothes.



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OIL

When cooking with oil, do not overheat it.

ALWAYS keep a lid cover and/or baking soda close at hand.

DO NOT carry a flaming pot to the sink and do not pour water on it.



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BARBECUE EQUIPMENT

NEVER permit a child to handle barbecue equipment or place food on the fire.

NEVER apply additional lighter fluid once the flame has been lit.

Pour starter fluid over the coals or wood before striking the first match.



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SMOKE DETECTORS

Smoke detectors are vital for the safety of you and your family.

INSTALL them of every level of your home, including the basement and attic.

CHECK often to see that they are always in working condition.



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