

PROJECT: HOME SAFETY

Can you remember where you got your first cut? Where were you the first time you fell down? How about the last time you slipped in the bathroom? More than likely, the answer to these questions is: in your home. Taking simple precautions can prevent many accidents, like the ones that you have already experienced, from occurring in your house. The first step in the prevention of accidents is to discover the dangerous situations that exist. The second step is to eliminate the dangerous situations. In this activity, you will check your house for safety hazards and take the appropriate actions to correct them. Use the following questions to guide your safety check and answer each if applicable.

Directions: Complete the checklist and answer the question.

- _____ 1. Is your kitchen equipped with a fire extinguisher and a smoke detector?
- _____ 2. Are electrical sockets overloaded with plugs?
- _____ 3. Are electrical cords frayed or cracked?
- _____ 4. Are unused electrical sockets sealed with a protective plug?
- _____ 5. Are hallways and stairways well lit and free of clutter?
- _____ 6. Are stairways equipped with a sturdy handrail?
- _____ 7. Is your fireplace covered with a sturdy screen?
- _____ 8. Is your fireplace cleaned regularly?
- _____ 9. Are pots and pans left unattended on the stove or with the handles sticking out over the edge?
- _____ 10. Are knives and other sharp objects stored safely out of the reach of children?
- _____ 11. Do you or a member of your family habitually talk or laugh while chewing?
- _____ 12. Are pesticides, household cleaners, and other chemicals stored in a safe place out of the reach of children?

- _____ 13. Are medications stored in a locked cabinet out of the reach of children?
- _____ 14. Is your bathtub or shower equipped with handrails and a rubber mat?
- _____ 15. Are oil or chemical saturated rags and other flammable materials stored away from heat sources?
- _____ 16. Is any of your carpet torn or stretched?
- _____ 17. Do you or a member of your family operate the lawn equipment with other people in the yard?
- _____ 18. Are guns or other weapons stored in locked cabinets?
- _____ 19. Is your pool surrounded by a fence?

Write a summary that includes hazards found in your home and possible solutions to correct them. (You can talk to your parents about what can be done to fix them).