

G+V KIDS, INK!

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July 2006

What You Need To Know About Poisons!

In the Disney movie *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, Snow White eats a food that puts her to sleep. Do you know what food she ate? A poison apple! Although, the movie is not real, poison is a real danger to your health. What is a poison? A poison is something that can make you sick or can hurt you, if you eat, drink, touch or smell it. Poisons come in all colors, shapes, and sizes. A poison can smell and taste good, but can make you very sick and sometimes even cause death. Almost all poisonings take place in the home and that is why it is important for the safety of you and your family that you know what poisons are and what to do if someone you know becomes sick because of a poison.

There are a couple different types of poisons that you should know about. The first is called a toxic substance. What is a toxic substance? A toxic substance means any chemical or mixture that may be harmful to the environment and to human health if inhaled, swallowed, or absorbed through the skin.

Did you know that some toxic substances are found in nature? There are naturally occurring toxins (poisonous substances coming from living organisms) found in certain plants like poinsettias and even some wild mushrooms and berries. However, the toxic substances contained in most everyday household products are synthetic which means they are man-made. The opposite of toxic substances are called non-toxic substances. Non-toxic substances are safe to use, and do not harm humans and the environment. Many of the products you find in your home may have toxic substances. Toxic products can be things such as drain cleaners, oven cleaners, laundry detergents, floor or furniture polish, paints and pesticides.

While these products are useful at home, some of the chemicals in these products can irritate your skin, eyes, nose and throat, or can even poison you — so *be careful!* You should always think about the products you use at home — are they toxic? If they are, be careful when you use them. If you are unsure, please check with an adult before you use them.

A second type of poison that you need to know about is called a pesticide. What is a pesticide? A pesticide is a

(Continued on next page)



What You Need To Know About Poisons!

(Continued from previous page)

chemical used to prevent, destroy, or repel pests. Pests can be insects, mice and other animals, weeds, fungi, or microorganisms such as bacteria and viruses. Some examples of pests are termites causing damage to our homes, dandelions in the lawn, and fleas on our dogs and cats. Pesticides also are used to kill organisms that can cause diseases.

Here are some examples of pesticide products we use in our homes: cockroach sprays and baits, mosquito sprays, rat poisons, flea and tick sprays, powders, and pet collars.

There are many types of pesticides. For example, a pesticide used to kill weeds in a garden is known as a herbicide. See the box below to learn about the different types of pesticides and their purpose.

How do you know if a product in your home is toxic or a pesticide? It is always important to read the labels of products before you use them. Next time you help your mom or dad clean the house, remember the label is your guide to using products safely.

The Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center is responsible for serving residents of Colorado and



neighboring states with information about poisons. They help educate youth and adults on how to use toxic substances responsibly. One way the U.S. Government helps keep citizens safe is to require companies that make toxic products like window cleaner to use signal words to show how toxic a

product can be. These words are: *Caution, Warning, and Danger*. Both you and your parents need to be careful when products with signal words on the label are used. Make sure you do not come in contact with any of the chemicals from these products. Remind your parents to always "Read the Label First" to know how to properly use these products and for safety information.

• **Danger** is the strongest signal word. If a label has the word **Danger** on it, your parents must be extremely careful using the product. If it is used the wrong way, you could get very sick, be hurt for a long time, go blind or even die.

Danger is also used on products that could explode if they get hot. • **Warning** is less strong than **Danger**, but it still means that you could get really sick or become seriously hurt. **Warning** is also used to identify products that can easily catch on fire.

• **Caution** shows that the product could hurt you, but it is less harmful than products with a danger or warning signal word. **Caution** is used on products that could bother your skin, make you sick if you breathed the fumes, or really hurt if the product got in your eyes.

Remember to be careful

whenever you see a signal word!

Every day people can and do prevent poisonings. Because accidents do happen it is important to know what to do if you or someone you know is exposed to a pesticide or toxic product. How harmful a chemical is to you depends on your exposure to it. What is exposure? A simple way to think about exposure is, "how strong" and "how long" did you come in contact with a chemical. This is important in trying to find out if a chemical is causing health problems. Figuring out what your exposure was to a chemical can be tricky because sometimes it may be a long time after you come in contact with a chemical before you get sick. Or it can take repeated contact with a chemical before you get sick or have a reaction, like vomiting or developing a rash.

If you have a reaction to any household products that have been used around your home, you will need to know what to tell your parents about your "exposure" to the product. The four descriptions and example questions below will help you to understand exposure.

1. Your exposure is based on **how** you came in contact with the chemical.

Did some spray from a glass cleaner get on your skin while cleaning the bathroom mirror? Did you accidentally walk into the room where a fogger or insect bomb had just been set off and breathe the fumes? Did you play on the grass after a weed killer was put on your lawn? Were you washing your dog with a flea and tick shampoo?

2. Your exposure is based on **how long** were you in contact with the chemical.

Were you playing all day on the lawn after a weed killer was used? Did you spend a half hour picking tomatoes after an insect killer was sprayed in your garden? Did you sleep all night in a room that had just been painted?

3. Your exposure is based on **how much** of the chemical you come in contact with.

How much insect spray got on your arm; a few drops or enough to make a large wet spot? How much insect powder to kill ants got on your hands; a little on your fingers or was it all over your hands? How much of the container of liquid cleaner spilled on your clothes; a little splash or half the bottle?

4. Your exposure is based on **how strong** or toxic the chemical is.

Did the spray from a pesticide container brought from the store get on you? Did the liquid from a container of weed killer and water that your Dad mixed together spill on you? What is the *signal word* on the *label* of the container — *Caution, Warning or Danger*?

If you someone you know ever eats, drinks, touches or smells a poison, you should tell an adult and call your local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. All poison control centers now have the same telephone number. It is 1-800-222-1222. Tell them what



happened. Tell them what pesticide or household product it was. If possible, have the container and label with you. Tell them how much you came in contact with and what part of your body came in contact with it (Was it your eyes or skin or did you swallow some?) If an adult is not close by and you are hurt or starting to feel sick, then do the following:

1. If someone splashes a household chemical in the eyes, rinse out the eyes for 15-20 minutes in the shower

or under a faucet. Then call your poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. You can also call 9-1-1 or your local emergency ambulance number.

2. If someone splashes a household chemical on the skin, take off the wet clothing and rinse the skin for 15-20 minutes in the shower or under a faucet. Then call your poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. You can also call 911 or your local emergency ambulance number.

3. If someone drinks a household chemical, give them half a glass of water to drink. Then call your poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. You can also call 9-1-1 or your local emergency ambulance number.

4. If someone inhaled a poisonous gas, quickly get the person to fresh air. Do not breathe the fumes yourself. Open all the doors and windows wide. Call your poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. You can also call 9-1-1.

5. If someone is not breathing or won't wake up, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Understanding what poisons are can help you and your family create a safe home. For more information about poison safety such as tips to keep your pets safe, visit the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center Web site at www.rmpdc.org.

Algicides	Control algae in swimming pools and water tanks.
Antimicrobials	Kill microorganisms (such as bacteria and viruses).
Attractants	Attractants are traps containing a pesticide and food to lure insects or rodents inside. However, food is not a pesticide even though it certainly attracts pests...like ants at a picnic.
Disinfectants and Sanitizers	Kill disease-producing microorganisms in the kitchen and bathroom.
Fumigants	Produce gas or vapor intended to destroy pests in the house or in the ground.
Fungicides	Kill fungi (including blights, mildews, molds, and rusts).
Herbicides	Kill weeds.
Insecticides	Kill insects and other arthropods.
Miticides	Kill mites that feed on plants and animals.
Microbial Pesticides	Microorganisms that kill or inhibit pests, including insects or other microorganisms. Sometimes microorganisms get rid of pests simply by growing larger in numbers, using up the pests' food supply, and invading the pests' environment.
Molluscicides	Kill snails and slugs.
Nematicides	Kill nematodes (microscopic, worm-like organisms that feed on plant roots).
Pheromones	Biochemicals used to disrupt the mating behavior of insects.
Repellents	Repel pests, including insects (such as mosquitoes) and birds.
Rodenticides	Control mice and other rodents.

Web Site Of The Month!

www.epa.gov/kidshometour/

Visit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Web site and take a house tour. Yes, that is right! Learn more about chemicals around your home by visiting this interactive page designed especially for kids.



Make sure your parents know when you visit the Internet.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Proper Disposal Of Hazardous Household Waste Helps Keep The Village Environment Healthy

Almost every home contains hazardous products that can harm human health or the environment if improperly handled. These products are used in cleaning, home improvements, automobile maintenance, lawn and garden care, hobbies, and a variety of other tasks and require special care. See box below for more hazardous household products.

What makes a hazardous household product? A household hazardous product is one whose use or disposal poses a threat to human health or the environment.

What makes a product hazardous? Products are considered hazardous if they have

one or more of the following characteristics:

- **Flammable/combustible** meaning the product can easily be set on fire.
- **Explosive/reactive** meaning the product can explode through exposure to heat, sudden shock, pressure or incompatible substances.
- **Corrosive** meaning the chemicals in the product can burn and destroy living tissues or other materials when brought in contact.
- **Toxic** meaning the product is capable of causing injury or death through ingestion, inhalation or skin absorption.



Some toxic substances cause cancer, genetic mutations and fetal harm.

Thousands of products that we use are hazardous, and also referred to as Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). An easy way to remember the different types of HHW is to break them into the following groups of products:

- **Automotive products**
For example: gasoline, motor oil, antifreeze, windshield wiper fluid, car wax and cleaners, lead-acid batteries, brake fluid, transmission fluid.
- **Home improvement products**
For example: paint, varnish, stain, paint thinner, paint stripper, caulk, adhesives.
- **Pesticides**
For example: insecticide and insect repellent, weed killer, rat and mouse poison, pet spray and dip, flea collars, mothballs, disinfectant, wood preservative.
- **Household cleaners**
For example: furniture polish and wax, drain opener, oven cleaner, tub and tile cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, spot remover, bleach, ammonia.
- **Other**
For example: household batteries, cosmetics, pool chemicals, shoe polish, lighter

fluid, prescription medicines, arts and crafts materials.

Improper disposal of HHW can include pouring products down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the trash. The dangers of disposing these wastes this way can create pollution in the environment and pose a threat to human health. For example, if gasoline is poured into a drainageway and flows into a Village creek, animals who drink from the creek could become sick and die. Because of the danger that HHW poses to communities, these products require special awareness, handling, and disposal. The Village believes, for your health and protection of the environment, that it is important to provide the HHW program. The program gives residents the opportunity to properly dispose of hazardous household waste.

Let's pretend that your dad has just finished changing the oil in your family car. What should he do with the used oil? Never pour used oil on the ground or down a drain. It could leach to ground water or pollute streams and other water bodies. Motor oil can also cause problems with sewage treatment processes. The best answer is, "Pour it back into an empty motor oil container and recycle it."

Certain types of HHW have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers, contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains or toilets, and present hazards to children and pets if left around the house. Federal law allows disposal of HHW in the trash. However, many communities such as the Village have collection programs for HHW to reduce the potential harm posed by these chemicals.

"The Village encourages participation in the HHW collection program," said Mayor Nancy Sharpe. "This is healthier for the Village's natural environment such

Materials Collected/ Services Offered:

- Auto:** Antifreeze, Brake Fluid, Car Batteries, Transmission Fluid, Used Motor Oil, Used Oil Filters
- Batteries:** NiCad Batteries, Rechargeable Batteries (non-NiCad), Single-use Batteries
- Electronics:** Computer Recycling, Electronics
- Household Hazardous Waste:** Adhesives, Degreasers, Fertilizers, Fluorescent Bulbs, Fungicides, Gasoline and Unwanted Fuels, Herbicides, Household Cleaners, Insecticides, Mercury Containing Items, Paint Disposal, Paint Recycling, Paint Thinners, Pesticides, Photographic Chemicals, Pool Chemicals, Solvents
- Metal:** Aerosol Cans



as creeks and wetlands."

It is important to read product labels for disposal directions to reduce the risk of products exploding, igniting, leaking, mixing with other chemicals, or posing other hazards on the way to a disposal facility. Even empty containers of HHW can pose hazards because of leftover chemicals that might still be in the container.

Overall, proper disposal of HHW prevents pollution that could endanger human health and the environment. The Village provides a HHW pickup program to encourage residents to properly dispose of hazardous items such as oil, gas, paint, insecticide, fertilizer, vehicle batteries, acid, hot ashes, asbestos, propane tanks, and fire extinguishers which are household hazardous waste items that cannot be placed in the trash at curbside. See the box above for a complete list of items that can be disposed of through the HHW pick up program.

"To avoid the potential health risks associated with HHW, it is important that people are always careful when using, storing, and

disposing of these products," said John Sheldon, Director of Public Works.

Remember to use and store products containing hazardous substances carefully to prevent any accidents at home. Never store hazardous products in food containers; keep them in their original containers and never remove labels. Corroding containers, however, require special handling. When leftovers remain, never mix HHW with other products.

Remember to follow any instructions for use and disposal provided on product labels. Properly disposing of HHW is important to the health of the Village's natural environment as well as the health and safety of the citizens who live and work here.

Does your family use the HHW pickup program? Greenwood Village contracts with Curbside Inc. to pick up hazardous waste. Call 1-800-449-7587 for information and to schedule a pickup time.

For more information on the program, please contact Karen Rowley, Public Works Administrative Coordinator, at 303-708-6120.

Common Types Of Hazardous Household Waste

Cleaning Products

- Oven cleaners
- Drain cleaners
- Wood and metal cleaners and polishes
- Toilet cleaners
- Tub, tile, shower cleaners
- Bleach (laundry)
- Pool chemicals

Indoor Pesticides

- Ant sprays and baits
- Cockroach sprays and baits
- Flea repellents and shampoos
- Bug sprays
- Houseplant insecticides
- Moth repellents
- Mouse and rat poisons and baits

Automotive Products

- Motor oil
- Fuel additives
- Carburetor and fuel injection cleaners
- Air conditioning refrigerants
- Starter fluids
- Automotive batteries
- Transmission and brake fluid
- Antifreeze

Workshop/Painting Supplies

- Adhesives and glues
- Furniture strippers
- Oil or enamel based paint
- Stains and finishes
- Paint thinners and turpentine
- Paint strippers and removers
- Photographic chemicals
- Fixatives and other solvents

Lawn and Garden Products

- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Fungicides/ wood preservatives

Miscellaneous

- Batteries
- Mercury thermostats or thermometers
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Driveway sealer

Other Flammable Products

- Propane tanks and other compressed gas cylinders
- Kerosene
- Home heating oil
- Diesel fuel
- Gas/oil mix
- Lighter fluid

Activity

Chemicals Word Search And Scramble

P C H L O R I N E E N C L
 A E R E A D I G Z C H E M
 L P S Q F C D E K E B O L
 G O Y T T O E C M A T V H
 I L T O I R G I L H C C R
 C I Y S F C C G B A A P E
 I S O I R A I A E E T A P
 D H T I L I L D L R H I E
 E N A S L L F B E N E N L
 A I B Q S B A I T S B T L
 T N A T C E F N I S I D E
 T N E G R E T E D T U P N
 Y C S R E N A E L C W C T

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| algicide | chemicals | disinfectant | paint |
| antifreeze | chlorine | fogger | pesticide |
| baits | cleaners | mothballs | polish |
| bleach | detergent | oil | repellent |

What is something you should always do before using any household product?

Write your answer on the line below and then find this secret message in the word search.

Answer: Read The Label First

Math Whiz Is Not Just About Solving Equations

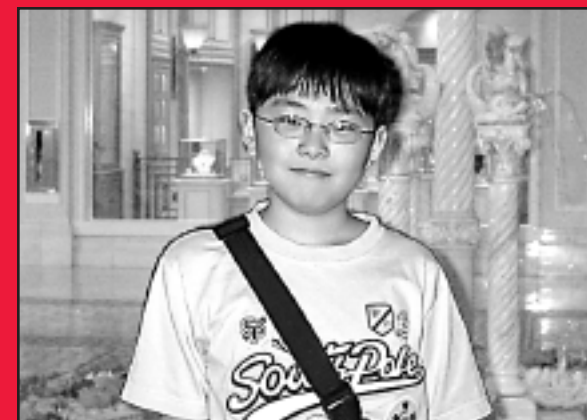
Scoring perfect on the math portion of the SAT has not stopped Tae Kim from doing the things normal 12-year-olds do. While his studies are very important to him, video games, reading, and origami, are just a few of Tae's favorite things to do when he is not solving difficult math equations.

"I really like reading because it puts you in a different world," says Tae. "You get to feel everything the characters are feeling." Looking for a good book to read this summer? Tae recommends *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor. This is a book about a young boy named Phillip living on Curacao, an island off the coast of Venezuela, during World War II. "The book is full of adventure!" adds Tae.

In January 2006, Tae, a soon to be seventh grader at Campus Middle School, took the SAT aptitude test at Cherry Creek High School as part of a requirement for a gifted program at the University of Denver (DU). Tae was very surprised at his performance, receiving a perfect score of 800 on the math portion of the SAT. Only a minimum score of 430 is necessary to be accepted into the program and Tae well exceeded those requirements! "I was surprised and very happy with my score," adds Tae.

Tae was accepted to the DU program and is currently taking summer classes. "I am taking two classes — one in Robotics and the second is an arts and humanities course titled Haunted Houses, Villains and Heroes," says Tae. "In the Robotics class we use a lot of measurement units such as distance equals rate x time. In my other class we have a lot of discussion and read great books."

When Tae is not busy with his summer studies, he can be found playing the Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time. "This video game has a good plot, like a story," says Tae. "The game is full of adventure and problem solving!"



Tae enjoys traveling with his family to places such as Korea.

Tae's School Smarts:

- Do not procrastinate!
- If something you are studying is getting boring, try to make it fun and motivating.
- If you fail at something, do not overreact. Think about how you can do better next time.
- Stay organized. Tae uses big pockets and vests to keep his school supplies so he does not have to carry around a big backpack.

Tae believes math is fun and other subjects are good as well. When asked if there is anything he does not like about math, Tae responds, "I do not like doing 'ugly math' problems. This type of math is very redundant and tiring because you never really solve the problem."

Tae has a lot of good advice for kids on how to do well in school. "Pay attention in class," says Tae. "And always be honest with your teachers!"

Tae has a very bright future ahead of him and big dreams. "I would like to go to Harvard for college," says Tae. "It is the best school for medicine and business." While he is just starting to think about what he will study in college, Tae likes the idea of trying to combine his interest in medicine, computer science, and business.

Currently Tae is also volunteering his time at the Koelbel Library at the circulation desk. Once school starts, Tae will be taking high school math courses at Cherry Creek in addition to keeping busy with extracurricular activities at Campus Middle School including "Math Counts," "Brain Bowl," and the "Environmental Science Club." Tae comments about the Environmental Science Club, "I like trees!"

Tae enjoys learning to speak Korean and Spanish. He enjoys traveling to Korea with his family to visit relatives. Tae has an older brother Eric who will be a senior at Cherry Creek High School this fall. His dad Seon, who is a computer science professor at DU and his mom Eun are both very proud of Tae.

Tae plans to take the SAT again when he is a junior in high school. "I hope to beat the odds that show it is difficult to get a perfect score a second time," says Tae.



Tae and his older brother Eric.



Curtis Arts & Humanities Center
2349 East Orchard Road, Greenwood Village, Colorado
Registration For Workshops Required • 303-797-1779

Water Media

Ages 8 and up

Watercolor techniques are introduced with wet-on-wet, drybrush, washes, transparent layers, texture, and brush marks. All supplies provided.

Dates: Wednesdays,

August 2 and 9

Time: 11 a.m to 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Anna Janich

Poetry And Lasting Impressions Workshops

Ages 8 and up

Create your poem or song. Design and put it together in your own creative book. Bring photos, etc. from home.

Dates: Mondays,

July 10 and 17

Time: 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Gina Oldenburg

Embroidery

Ages 8 and up

Embroider and create a beautiful work of art! Just a stitch or two will make you an expert. All materials provided.

Dates: Mondays,

July 10 and 17

Time: 1 to 3 p.m.

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Elaine Ricklin

Drawing

(Ages 9 and up; ages 9 to 12 must show samples)

Learn the basics, the technical aspects, and the fun trends of drawing! Classes will include drawing from nature, structural drawing and shading.

On day one, bring a sketch pad, kneaded eraser, art gum or pink pearl eraser, ruler, sanding block, paper towels or tissue, and 2B fat lead pencils.

Dates: Fridays

Session II:

July 14, 21, 28, August 4

Session III:

August 11, 18, 25,
September 1

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Cost: \$40 per session

Instructor: Rick Brogan

Funky

Portraits

Ages 8 and up

Create a portrait of yourself or someone you know using paint, paper and unusual materials. You may bring pictures, photographs and/or any small objects to inspire you or to include in the portrait. The most important thing is that you bring your imagination!

Dates: Saturday, July 15

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost: \$25

Instructor: Elaine Ricklin

Please bring a lunch.

Block Printing

Ages 8 and up

Have fun designing your own image and cutting the image into a block with cutting tools. You will then learn how to ink the block and print the image, in color, on a variety of papers. The block and prints will be yours to take home.

Dates: Thursday,

July 13 and 20

Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$25

Instructor: Elaine Ricklin

All supplies are provided.

Celebrating Back To School With Art

**Monday,
August 14, 2006**

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Non-residents: \$10 fee

ATTENTION PARENTS:

No child 16 and under will be allowed to leave the Curtis Arts & Humanities Center without the parent being present or having provided written permission for the child to leave with another adult.



GV KIDS, INK!

An official publication of the City of Greenwood Village

Providing kids with information, activities, events, classes, recipes, and much more!

The **GV KIDS, INK!** Newsletter would like to hear from you with comments, suggestions, and information to share with other kids.

For additional information, please contact

Heather Geyer, Interim Management Specialist, at 303-486-5746;
e-mail hgeyer@greenwoodvillage.com; or write to **GV KIDS, INK!** Newsletter,
6060 South Quebec Street, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.