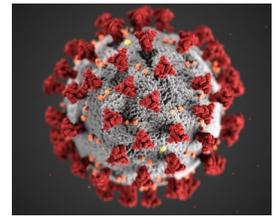




# Coronavirus Communication



The Coronavirus has caused quite a commotion and disruption to our community and to our world. While we all need to be aware that vigilance with handwashing, covering our cough and staying home if sick is important, we at Safe Kids Grand Forks want to add a few more reminders for parents to think about. During this time when school is out and kids are likely spending more time at home, keeping that environment a safe one for kids to live and explore is important. Here are a few reminders to keep homes and families safe, not just from Coronavirus but from the leading killer of kids, preventable injuries.



Remind kids and adults alike to wash their hands often with hot water and soap or hand sanitizer. If you have a runny nose, toss your tissue in the garbage right away. Self isolate as much as possible and stay home and away from others if you are sick. If you have Covid-19 symptoms, call Altru's Coronavirus hotline before going to the ER so you can be screened: **701.780.6358**



Every 12 days in the United States, a child dies because they got into a medication and were poisoned. In fact, medications are now the #1 cause of poisoning in children. Keep medications UP and OUT of REACH and SIGHT of children. If you need FREE cabinet locks to install on your cabinets to secure your meds, contact our Safe Kids Grand Forks office at [safekids@altru.org](mailto:safekids@altru.org). Put the Poison Control Center number in your phone in case you need it. **1.800.222.1222** Also, keep hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes up and out of reach as well.



During a time when kids are likely to be home more, maybe bored or their caregivers are busy trying to work from home, be alert to other dangers kids can get into.

- ⇒ Put laundry and detergent pods up high and out of reach of kids.
- ⇒ Install baby gates to keep small children in a safe area.
- ⇒ Assure that televisions are mounted to the wall or furniture. Make sure all your tv's are secure, especially the older style "tube TV's" that are very heavy and often found on furniture with drawers (used as stairs) or ones with shelves kids can climb.
- ⇒ Check the home for small items that kids can choke on such as coins, paperclips, buttons, small toy parts, etc. If an item will fall through the center of a toilet paper roll, it should not be around kids under age 3 as it may cause a choking hazard.
- ⇒ Put items with button batteries up and out of reach of children.



- ⇒ Avoid public playgrounds as the Coronavirus can last on metal surfaces for up to 3 days.
- ⇒ Watch for water that may have accumulated in low lying areas with the spring melt. Stay away from water in the river and ditches as it is very cold and not only is drowning a danger, but so is hypothermia.
- ⇒ If you have gotten your bikes/scooters/rollerblades out of storage for the season, assure helmets fit and be sure to wear them. Contact us to purchase a helmet at a reduced price. We can fit kids through adult sizes.

