

Spot the home hazards



There are many hazards in our homes. Some of us have swimming pools, some have trampolines, some even have toys on the floor and lots of tripping hazards.

Step 1: Spot the Hazards.

Look at the kitchen image below and list all the hazards you can see. (There are at least four!) For each hazard that you find, use the sentence starter 'What if...' to help you consider the consequences. For example: "**What if** the saucepan was full of boiling water, people could be splashed and burnt by the hot water".

Remember: a hazard is any object or behaviour that could cause injury, ill health, or damage.



Even though the above picture shows everyday objects, they can be a hazard and there is a risk of injury through tripping, being burnt or poisoned.

Step 2: Go for a walk around your home and photograph the hazards.

- Go in all the rooms in your home, look in the kitchen and laundry cupboards as well. Then go out onto your balcony or into your backyard. You could even look in the garage or shed if you have one.
- Take a photo of any hazards that you can find. *(If you don't have a camera or phone to take photos - write a list or draw a quick sketch of the hazards you find).*



While you were looking around your home did you notice any signs or warning labels? We have signs to give us information, warn us about dangers and to help keep us safe both at home and when we are near the roads.

One of the ways to convey the message on a sign is by using colour.

Red – important information (eg: a DANGER sign)

Yellow – a warning sign (eg: a POISON sign)

Green – directions and information (eg: a FIRST-AID sign)

Do you think that the shape of a sign is important as well? There are round, rectangular and triangular shapes but there is only one octagon. Do you know which sign that is?

STEP 3: Design a safety sign to go in your home or in your backyard

- For each hazard that you found around your home, consider how it could be made safer. Use 'If... then' statements. For example, "If I move the hose off the footpath, then people won't be able to trip over it."
- Choose one of the hazards you found at your home and design a safety sign to help keep your family safe.
- Think about the colours and shapes you will use for your sign.
- Draw your sign or design it on the computer.

Curriculum Links

Health and Physical Education: Level 3 & 4 - Identify and practise strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing (VCHPEP091)

Critical and Creative Thinking: Level 3 & 4 - Identify and use 'If, then...' and 'what if...' reasoning (VCCCTR016)