

# TOY SAFETY

## Characteristics of a Good Toy

- Suitable to the child's physical capabilities, mental and social development
- Appealing and interesting to the child
- Well-constructed, durable, and safe for the child's age

## Dos and Don'ts in Toy Safety

1. Check labels on the packaging and observe precautions appearing in the labels.
2. Ensure that the child will play with a toy suited for his/her age under adult supervision.
3. Dispose plastic packaging accordingly. Keep it out of reach of children.
4. For children under age 3, do not buy the following:
  - Balls with a diameter of 1.75 inches or less so as to prevent choking;
  - Toys that easily break into small parts or pieces (glass or brittle plastics);
  - Toys containing small detachable parts or pieces, which could become lodged in the throat;
  - Toys with sharp points and edges;
  - Toys with electrical parts, unless supervised by an adult;
  - Toys with parts that could pinch or entrap fingers, toes, or hair; and
  - Toys with parts put together by straight pins, sharp wires, or nails that are exposed and easily detached.

### Reference:

Department of Health. (2011) Toy Safety Tips Advisory. Retrieved from [http://www.doh.gov.ph/advisory/toy\\_safety.html](http://www.doh.gov.ph/advisory/toy_safety.html)