

## For Immediate Release:

# Family Gift Buying Tips for a Safe Holiday and Summer Season

Picking the right gift for the family can be quite challenging. This holiday and summer season, show them that you love them by treating them with gifts which they can enjoy and at the same time, help keep them safe from injuries at home, at play and on the road.

### What to buy:

- **For the baby and the kids: a new car seat.** Jazz it up and let your imagination run wild (tell them it's a jet pilot's seat or a race car seat!). Just remember to buy them one that fits their height, weight and age.
- **For their brother or sister: a cycle helmet.** If Lance Armstrong needs one, your child will, too. Let them pick their own helmet and teach them to wear it correctly.
- **For dad: tools with safety locks.** Nothing pleases Dad more than a brand new power tool. Buy one with a safety lock, and protect curious little hands by storing them out of children's sight and reach.
- **Grandparents: a portable pool fence.** Even small or portable pools have to comply with pool safety regulations. A portable pool fence is a great gift to keep cool and safe this summer.
- **Mum: working smoke alarms.** It may not sound like a gift that will make mum jump up with joy, but consider this: It could save your family's lives in the event of a fire, and may also save the new whitewear, furniture and shoes you are *ALSO* buying her for Christmas!



### Gifts to be aware of:

- **Choking hazards.** If a toy can fit inside a toilet roll, it is a choking hazard for babies and toddlers.
- **Bath seats/ rings and baby walkers.** These products give a false sense of security. Babies can slip or get trapped underwater using bath seats/ rings. Using baby walkers, babies can fall against fires, off decks or poison themselves with medications and cleaning products parents thought were stored high enough.
- **Gifts with button batteries.** Inside mini remotes, singing greeting cards and books are very powerful, coin-sized lithium batteries. When a battery gets stuck in a child's throat, saliva triggers an electrical current which may create a chemical reaction, causing severe (even fatal) injury. Tip: *SEARCH* your home for batteries; *SECURE* devices and keep them out of sight and reach; *SHARE* this life-saving information to everyone.

For more information in keeping kids safe at home, at play and on the road, visit [www.safekids.org.nz](http://www.safekids.org.nz).

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#### **About SafeKids New Zealand**

SafeKids New Zealand is the injury prevention service of Starship Children's Health and a member of SAFE KIDS Worldwide. Our mission is to reduce the incidence and severity of unintentional injuries to New Zealand's children aged 0 - 14 years. For more information, contact Anthony Rola at [anthonyr@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:anthonyr@adhb.govt.nz), visit [www.safekids.org.nz](http://www.safekids.org.nz) or call 09 631 0717.