



newsletter

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

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AAP Releases Bilingual Public Education Filmstrip on Lead-Based Paint Poisoning

The American Academy of Pediatrics, in cooperation with Medical Communications, Inc. (MEDCOM), a New York-based firm specializing in professional and patient health education, has released a 15 minute bilingual sound filmstrip on lead poisoning entitled "Poison in the Walls."

The 35 mm color filmstrip has been developed by the Academy and MEDCOM to educate the public about the hazards of lead poisoning, pica, and poisoning caused by lead-based paint used in old deteriorated houses. The filmstrip comes complete with a phonograph record narrated in English on one side and Spanish on the other.

The package also includes 100 sheets printed in English and Spanish which clearly spell out points to remember to help prevent lead poisoning in small children.

Filmstrip Available

The filmstrip, record, and 100 reminder sheets may be purchased from MEDCOM, Inc., 280 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. Price of the entire filmstrip package is \$50.00. An additional 100 reminder sheets may be ordered. Quantity prices for the reminder sheets are available upon request. Nonprofit groups are granted permission to reproduce the reminder sheets and distribute them to the public without charge.

The "Poison in the Walls" filmstrip can be shown on a filmstrip projector with turntable which may be rented at a nominal fee from any local camera shop which has an audio-visual dealership.

Graphic Demonstration

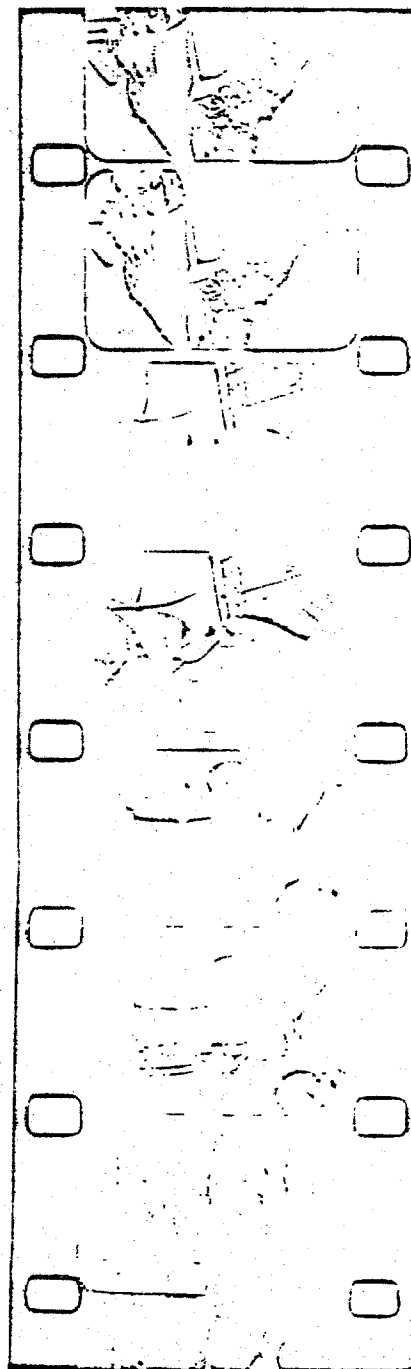
This film program graphically demonstrates how children between six months and six years may get lead poisoning by eating or chewing peeling lead-based paint and plaster in old homes. The film also demonstrates the importance of parental vigilance to protect children from such hazards.

Symptoms

The filmstrip also points up the symptoms of lead poisoning in a child which a parent should watch for, and emphasizes that children who eat paint and plaster should be tested immediately at a medical facility.

Continuing Program

Release of the "Poison in the Walls" filmstrip is part of the continuing program being developed by the Academy's Committee on Public Information to educate the public in all areas of child health care. This film is ideal for showing before community groups, neighborhood health centers, Head Start programs, civic groups and in outpatient clinics.



VENENO EN LAS PAREDES

Cosas que deben recordarse para ayudar a evitar que los niños se envenenen con plomo:

- 1) Los niños entre los seis meses y los seis años de edad pueden envenenarse con plomo.
- 2) La mayoría se envenenan comiendo pintura vieja o enyesado descascarado.
- 3) Esté alerta con los niños que acostumbran a comer cosas que no son comida.
- 4) Las señales que indican posible envenenamiento con plomo son:
cansancio o sueño—
dolores de estómago, retortijones y vómito—
pérdida del interés en juegos o la escuela—
convulsiones o coma.
- 5) Muchos niños envenenados no muestran ningunas señales hasta que es demasiado tarde.
- 6) Si un niño se come la pintura o el enyesado, llévelo inmediatamente al médico, a una clínica o al departamento de salud.
- 7) Elimine la pintura descascarada: raspela, bárrala a menudo y recubra las paredes.
¡No use pintura con base de plomo dentro de la casa!
- 8) Recuerde: ¡El envenenamiento con plomo puede causar la muerte o el retraso mental!

POISON IN THE WALLS

Things to remember to help you prevent lead poisoning in small children:

- 1) Children between 6 months and 6 years may get lead poisoning.
- 2) Most of them get it by eating or chewing on old peeling or flaking paint and plaster in old houses.
- 3) You must watch little children who have the habit of eating things that are not food—to make sure they don't eat paint.
- 4) Signs of lead poisoning may be: tiredness or sleepiness when you wouldn't expect it—
stomachaches, cramps, vomiting—
losing interest in play or school—
convulsions or coma.
- 5) But many children with lead poisoning show no signs at all until it's too late to help.
- 6) If a child eats paint or plaster, take him to your doctor or clinic or city health department for a test immediately.
- 7) Get rid of loose paint:
scrape it off, sweep it up often, and cover with boards, sticking paper or wallpaper.
Don't use paint with lead in it for indoor jobs!
- 8) Remember: lead poisoning can lead to death or mental retardation!

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