Consumer Product Safety Alert

FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

Never Put Children's Climbing Gyms On Hard Surfaces, Indoors Or Outdoors

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is warning parents and daycare providers that children's plastic climbing equipment should not be used indoors on wood or cement floors, even if covered with carpet, such as indoor/outdoor, shag or other types of carpet. Carpet does not provide adequate protection to prevent injuries.

CPSC has reports of two children killed and hundreds injured at home and at daycare centers when they fell from climbing equipment placed indoors on cement, wood or carpeted floors.

Parents and child care-givers should put all climbing equipment outdoors on surfaces such as sand or mulch to prevent children's head injuries. Manufacturers of plastic climbing equipment are labeling their products with warnings to NEVER put the equipment on concrete, asphalt, wood, or other hard surfaces and that carpet may NOT prevent injury.

For more information on child safety, call the Consumer Product Safety Commission at (800) 638-2772.