

# NYPIRG Treacherous Toys:

Dangerous and Toxic Toys on New York's Store Shelves



NYPIRG's Toy Safety Report December 2012

## **Acknowledgments**

NYPIRG's report, *Treacherous Toys: Dangerous and Toxic Toys on New York's Store Shelves,* was written by Tracy McCabe Shelton, Esq., and Megan Ahearn, NYPIRG Program Coordinator. Cover design by Tracy McCabe Shelton.

The authors would like to thank Rebecca Weber, Farouk Abdallah, and Kathleen Jordan for their help forming the concept for this report. The authors would also like to thank: Kristy Abreu, Golshan Aghanori, Braulio Aguirre, Harry Alexandre, Abdul Amunikoro, Tina Barnum, Mackoy Bennett, Brittany Bollenbach, Alex Bornemisza, Michael Carlino, Amanda Carpenter, Patty Ceravole, Armando Chapelliquen, Jaqi Cohen, Melcolm Crutchfield, Connor Daniel, Toren deRosa, Jesse Eng, Ben Fraimow, Mario Garcia, Julie Gorman, Shawn Hall, Tom Harris, Rob Kornblum, Guy Ladoucer, Casey Laskezy, Patrick Lewis, Eric Legeer, Halle Lyle, Brian Lupo, Jemima Matiminu, Pedro Medrano, Morganne Montana, Duke Nagrampa, Robert Noonan, Khadijat Olagoke, Andrew Oppenheimer, Enrico Purita, Irene Ramos, Alicia Rebelo, Tassia Rosa, Courtney Ross, George Salamanca, Brittania Smead, Nick Smith, Nicole St. James, Royce Stuteville, Ashleigh-Ann Sutherland, Rebecca Tanzer, Gina Taravella, Ted Traver, Kateri Turner, Max Wermuth, Alex Wojcik, and Eric Wood for their help with research for the report.

The New York Public Interest Research Group, NYPIRG, is the largest and most effective student-directed, nonpartisan, not-for-profit consumer and environmental protection organization in the state. Working on 20 college campuses and in communities across New York State, NYPIRG educates, trains, and empowers students and community members to be more engaged and effective advocates. Since 1973, NYPIRG has played a key role in fighting for more than 150 public interest laws and executive orders that protect the environment and public health, safeguard consumers, improve public transportation and foster a responsive, democratic government. Visit us at <a href="https://www.nypirg.org">www.nypirg.org</a>.

# **Contents**

Introduction1
World Against Toys Causing Harm-W.A.T.C.H2
United States Public Interest Research Group-USPIRG2
Center for Health, Environment and Justice-CHEJ3
Potential Hazards Indentified in Toys and Children's Products on the Shelves of Stores in New York4
NYPIRG's 2012 List of Potentially Unsafe Toys and Children's Products6

### **Treacherous Toys:**

#### **Dangerous and Toxic Toys on New York's Store Shelves**

The holidays are upon us. Toy manufacturers kick into high gear to offer the hottest toys for the holiday shopping season. There is a scramble among toy manufacturers to come out with *the* toy that is at the top of children's holiday "wish lists." Toy shoppers often seek to select toys that are fun, educational and popular. The purpose of the New York Public Interest Research Group/NYPIRG report, "Treacherous Toys: Dangerous and Toxic Toys on New York's Store Shelves," is to ensure that toy shoppers take safety into consideration when they are selecting toys and other children's products this holiday season. NYPIRG's toy safety report is also intended to pressure toy manufacturers to make toy safety a top priority when they are producing toys.

This report contains a list of potentially unsafe toys and children's products. The toys and children's products included on the list were identified in stores located in the state of New York in November 2012. The field study participants found toys and children's products in the stores that appeared on three different recently released lists of potentially unsafe toys and children's products in the following toy and child safety reports:

- (1) WORLD AGAINST TOYS CAUSING HARM, INC.'S "10 WORST TOYS" LIST. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual List Released on November 20, 2012. James A. Swartz. www.toysafety.org
- (2) United States Public Interest Research Group's "Trouble in Toyland." 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Report Released on November 20, 2012. Nasima Hossain. www.toysafety.net
- (3) Center for Health, Environment and Justice's "Hidden Hazards: Toxic Chemicals Inside Children's Vinyl Back-to-School Supplies." Released August 2012. Michael Schade. <a href="http://chej.org/wp-content/uploads/HiddenHazardsReportFINAL.pdf">http://chej.org/wp-content/uploads/HiddenHazardsReportFINAL.pdf</a>

From November 13 through November 30, a team of NYPIRG field study participants identified 19 potentially unsafe toys and children's products in 32 stores across the state. Five toys posed a choking hazard and seven toys and children's products tested positive for the toxic substance phthalates. Surveyors also identified four toys that pose puncture/impact hazards, three excessively loud toys and one potentially unsafe magnetic toy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Paradigm Environmental Services conducted the laboratory testing in Rochester, New York for the **Center for Health, Environment and Justice's** "*Hidden Hazards: Toxic Chemicals Inside Children's Vinyl Back-to-School Supplies*" report. The laboratory analyzed the school products for six phthalates and four heavy metals. Our surveyors identified five toys found in these tests to contain the toxic substance, phthalates.

#### World Against Toys Causing Harm (W.A.T.C.H.)

For four decades, W.A.T.C.H. has identified toys defectively designed or manufactured that could lead to serious injuries or death. Despite these efforts, there remain an alarming number of dangerous toys on retail shelves. In the United States, over three billion toys and games are sold each year. The CPSC reported that in 2010 alone, there were at least 17 toy-related deaths to children under 15 years old, and an estimated 251,700 toy-related injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms. There is no excuse for manufacturing a toy that can kill or injure a child. Consumers have a right to expect the toys they select for their children are designed with safety as a priority.

The "10 Worst Toys" list is one of the ways W.A.T.C.H. continues the fight to protect children from unsafe toys against a 20 billion dollar a year toy and game industry. Protecting children will, however, take more than a list of illustrative harmful toys. Safety for children in the year 2012 and beyond will only occur when preventing injuries caused by unsafe toys becomes the number one priority for the toy industry and the government regulatory agencies.

NYPIRG's list of Treacherous Toys contains five toys from the W.A.T.C.H. "10 Worst Toys" list, including the Explore and Learn Helicopter, the Avengers Hulk Gamma Green Smash Fists, the N-Force Vendetta Double Sword, the Power Rangers Samurai Shogun Helmet and the Bongo Ball.

#### **United States Public Interest Research Group (USPIRG)**

For 27 years, the USPIRG "Trouble in Toyland" report has offered safety guidelines for purchasing toys for small children and provided examples of toys currently on store shelves that pose potential safety hazards. Dangerous or toxic toys can still be found on America's store shelves, according to USPIRG's 27<sup>th</sup> annual "Trouble in Toyland" report. The report includes a list of dangerous toys that surveyors found on toy store shelves.

#### Key findings from the report include:

 Toys with high levels of toxic substances are still on store shelves, including toys which contain phthalates, as well as toys with lead content above the 100 parts per million limit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> WORLD AGAINST TOYS CAUSING HARM, INC.'S "10 WORST TOYS" LIST. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual List Released on November 20, 2012. James A. Swartz. www.toysafety.org Accessed December 4, 2012.

- Despite a ban on small parts in toys for children under three, some toys available in stores still pose choking hazards.
- Surveyors also found toys that are potentially harmful to children's ears and exceed the noise standards recommended by the National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders.<sup>3</sup>
- In addition, surveyors discovered small powerful magnets that pose a dangerous threat to children if swallowed.

NYPRG's list of Treacherous Toys includes eight toys and children's products from the USPIRG "Trouble in Toyland" list including Funkeys Car Keys, Baby's 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Balloons, CAT Honk and Rumble Wheel, Dora the Explorer Backpack, Dora Tunes Guitar, Dragster Cars, Just Like Home Playfood Set and Snake Eggs.

#### Center for Health, Environment and Justice-CHEJ

at greater than 65 decibels, which is harmful for tender ears.

CHEJ recently published their fifth-annual Back-to-School Guide to PVC-Free School Supplies, which features a listing of safer alternatives to phthalate-laden vinyl school supplies in over 40 different product categories. The guide is a tool to identify and choose safer products for children. The report, "Hidden Hazards: Toxic Chemicals Inside Children's Vinyl Back-to-School Supplies," also included a list of toys found to contain toxic substances. According to the report, new laboratory tests reveal children's vinyl back-to-school supplies are laden with hidden toxic chemicals harmful to children's health. This new investigation demonstrates that popular children's school supplies contain elevated levels of phthalates, hazardous chemicals that have been banned in toys, yet remain widespread in vinyl back-to-school supplies. Paradigm Environmental Services conducted the laboratory testing in Rochester, NewYork. The laboratory analyzed the school products for six phthalates and four heavy metals.

NYPIRG's list of Treacherous Toys contains six children's products from the CHEJ "Hidden Toxic Chemicals" list, including children's rain gear and backpacks.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> USPIRG surveyors measured the loudness of several toys using a hand held digital sound level meter, taking the readings from 25 centimeters to determine the range of noise to which a child playing with a toy could be exposed. Surveyors found three toys that may not meet the ASTM standards for loud toys. They found a toy guitar and a driving wheel dashboard console toy that exceeded the 85 decibels limit when measured at testing distances. Surveyors also found a close-to-the-ear toy—a toy key chain rattle intended for children under three—that tested

#### Potential Hazards Indentified in Toys and Children's Products in New York Stores

From November 13 through November 30, a team of NYPIRG field study participants identified 19 potentially unsafe toys and children's products in 32 stores across the state. Five toys posed a potential choking hazard and seven toys and children's products contained the toxic substance phthalates. Surveyors also identified four toys that pose puncture/impact hazards, three excessively loud toys and one potentially unsafe magnetic toy.

**Potential Choking Hazards:** Choking—on small toy parts, on small balls, on marbles and on balloons—continues to be the major cause of toy-related deaths and injuries. Between 1990 and 2011, over 200 children died from choking incidents.<sup>4</sup>

Under the Child Safety Protection Act (CSPA) and Consumer Product Safety Commission rules:

- ■■ Toys intended for children under three are banned if they contain small parts or easily break into pieces that are small parts.
- ■■ Toys intended for children between the ages ofthree and six years old that contain small parts must include an explicit choke hazard warning with precise statutory language.
- ■■ Any small ball or toy that contains a small ball must meet a stricter safety test and include an explicit choke hazard warning.
- ■■ Marbles or toys with marbles must include an explicit choke hazard warning.
- ■■ All balloons must include a warning about the dangers of uninflated or broken balloons to children younger than eight years of age.<sup>5</sup>

**Toxic Substance-Phthalates:** In recent years, a growing body of scientific evidence has found that phthalates—chemicals added to PVC/vinyl plastic—are associated with hormone disruption, birth defects, asthma and other serious health problems; many of these same health problems that are on the rise. Phthalates are added to vinyl plastic to make it soft and flexible. Studies have shown these harmful chemicals can be released into the air or leach out of the plastic, and these chemicals are getting into our bodies as a result. Children face the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> United States Public Interest Research Group's "Trouble in Toyland." 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Report Released on November 20, 2012. Nasima Hossain. <a href="www.toysafety.net">www.toysafety.net</a> Accessed December 4, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> United States Public Interest Research Group's "Trouble in Toyland." 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Report Released on November 20, 2012. Nasima Hossain. www.toysafety.net Accessed December 4, 2012.

highest exposure to these chemicals.<sup>6</sup> Unfortunately, while phthalates have been banned in children's toys, similar safeguards don't yet exist to keep them out of lunchboxes, backpacks, binders and other children's school supplies.<sup>7</sup>

**Potential Puncture/Impact Hazards:** Pointed, rigid plastic tips and play "blades" pose the potential for penetrating impact and puncture wound injuries.<sup>8</sup>

**Excessively Loud Toys:** Research has shown that a quarter of Americans with hearing loss can attribute it in part to noise. <sup>9</sup> The Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey showed that one in five U.S. children will have some degree of hearing loss by the time they reach age 12. This may be in part due to many children using toys and other children's products such as music players that emit loud sounds. <sup>10</sup> The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders advises that prolonged exposure to noise above 85 decibels will cause gradual hearing loss in any age range. <sup>11</sup>

**Magnetic Toy Hazards:** Ellipsoid toy magnets that nearly fit in the small parts cylinder were found in our survey. They are classified as a novelty "finger-fidget" toy. These magnets are smooth and shiny and sold in pairs; striking them together causes them to vibrate and produce a singing sound, making them appealing to children. CPSC has reported gastroenterological injuries associated with ellipsoid magnets.<sup>12</sup> If the magnet had fit in the small parts test

http://www.apha.org/advocacy/policy/policysearch/default.htm?id=1419 Accessed December 4, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2012. Phthalate Action Plan. Online: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/actionplans/phthalates-actionplan revised 2012-03-14.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/actionplans/phthalates-actionplan revised 2012-03-14.pdf</a> Accessed December 4, 2012; American Public Health Association (APHA). 2011. Reducing PVC in Facilities with Vulnerable Populations. Online:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Center for Health, Environment and Justice's "Hidden Hazards: Toxic Chemicals Inside Children's Vinyl Back-to-School Supplies". Released August 2012. Michael Schade. Online: http://chej.org/wp-content/uploads/HiddenHazardsReportFINAL.pdf Accessed December 4, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> WORLD AGAINST TOYS CAUSING HARM, INC.'S "10 WORST TOYS" LIST. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual List Released on November 20, 2012. James A. Swartz. <a href="www.toysafety.org">www.toysafety.org</a> Accessed December 4, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Dangerous Decibels, A Project of Oregon Hearing Research Center at Oregon Health and Science University. <a href="http://www.dangerousdecibels.org/education/information-center/noise-induced-hearing-loss/">http://www.dangerousdecibels.org/education/information-center/noise-induced-hearing-loss/</a> Accessed December 4, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Josef Shargorodsky MD, MPH, Sharon G. Curhan MD, ScM, Gary C. Curhan MD, ScD, Roland Eavey, MD, SM. Change in Prevalence of Hearing Loss in US Adolescents. JAMA. 2010; 304,(7): 772-778)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> National Institute on Deafness and other Communications Disorders, Interactive Sound Ruler How Loud is too Loud? <a href="http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/pages/sound-ruler.aspx">http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/pages/sound-ruler.aspx</a>. Accessed December 4, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The CPSC staff has noted that "some of" the large ellipsoid magnets fit inside the choke cylinder. The PIRG samples narrowly did not. See "Staff Responses to Questions about the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Hazardous Magnet Sets," Memo to the Commission, dated 20 August 2012, available at <a href="http://www.cpsc.gov/library/foia/foia12/brief/nordmagnet.pdf">http://www.cpsc.gov/library/foia/foia12/brief/nordmagnet.pdf</a> Accessed December 4, 2012.

cylinder, it would be banned for sale to children under 14. These, instead, were labeled "four and up." 13

# Treacherous Toys: Dangerous and Toxic Toys on New York's Store Shelves

#### NYPIRG's 2012 List of Potentially Unsafe Toys and Children's Products

NYPIRG's 2012 list of Treacherous Toys list contains five toys from the W.A.T.C.H. "10 Worst Toys" list including:

#### **EXPLORE & LEARN HELICOPTER**



Manufacturer or Distributor: V Tech

Retailer(s): Target; Walmart.com; ToysRUs.com; Kohls.com;

Sears.com; Kmart.com; Amazon.com

Age Recommendation: "12-36 Months"

Warnings: None

#### HAZARD: POTENTIAL FOR STRANGULATION AND ENTANGLEMENT INJURIES!

<u>This toy was identified in the following stores in New York</u>: Walmart, 3949 State Highway 31, Liverpool, NY; Toys R Us, 4081 State Highway 31, Clay, NY; Toys R Us, Richmond Shopping Center, 2845 Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, NY; Target, Hudson Valley Mall, 1300 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, NY; Toys R Us, Hudson Valley Plaza, 100 Value Drive, Kingston, NY; King Party Center, 2836 Third Avenue, Bronx, NY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> United States Public Interest Research Group's "Trouble in Toyland." 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Report Released on November 20, 2012. Nasima Hossain. <u>www.toysafety.net</u> Accessed December 4, 2012.

#### THE AVENGERS GAMMA GREEN SMASH FISTS



Manufacturer or Distributor: Hasbro

Retailer(s): Target; Kohls.com; Amazon.com

Age Recommendation: "Ages 3+"

Warnings: None

#### HAZARD: POTENTIAL FOR BLUNT IMPACT INJURIES!

This toy was identified in the following stores in New York: Target, 9 City Place, White Plains, NY; Target, 8801 Queens Boulevard, Elmhurst, NY; Target, 2626 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo NY; Walmart, 3949 State Highway 31, Liverpool, NY; Kmart, 2803 Brewerton Road, Syracuse, NY; Target, Hudson Valley Mall, 1300 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, NY; Toys R Us, Hudson Valley Plaza, 100 Value Drive, Kingston, NY; Toys R Us, 463 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY; ToysRUs, Manhattan Mall, 901 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY; Target, 13505 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, College Point, NY; Toy Zam, Staten Island Mall, 2655 Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, NY

#### N-FORCE VENDETTA DOUBLE SWORD



Manufacturer or Distributor: Hasbro

Retailer(s): Target; ToysRUs.com; Walmart.com

Age Recommendation: "Ages 8+"

Warnings: "CAUTION: Do not poke or swing at people or animals. Use away from breakable objects. TO AVOID INJURY: Discontinue use if core is exposed."

HAZARD: POTENTIAL FOR IMPACT INJURIES!

<u>This toy was identified in the following stores in New York</u>: Toys R Us, 4081 State Highway 31, Clay, NY; Target, Hudson Valley Mall, 1300 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, NY; Toys R Us, 463 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY; ToysRUs, Manhattan Mall, 901 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY

#### POWER RANGERS SUPER SAMURAI SHOGUN HELMET



Manufacturer or Distributor: Bandai

Retailer(s): Target; Kmart.com; Amazon.com

Age Recommendation: "4+"

Warnings: "Caution: This toy is not a safety protective device." (box and toy); Do not "1) aim toy at anyone, 2) hit anyone with toy, 3) poke anyone with toy, 4) swing toy at anyone..." (insert); and other warnings/cautions.

#### HAZARD: POTENTIAL FOR IMPACT AND PUNCTURE WOUND INJURIES!

This toy was identified in the following stores in New York: Target, 2626 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY; Kmart, 2803 Brewerton Road, Syracuse, NY; Target, Hudson Valley Mall, 1300 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, NY; Toys R Us, Hudson Valley Plaza, 100 Value Drive, Kingston, NY; Target; 9 City Place, White Plains, NY; Target, 8801 Queens Boulevard, Elmhurst, NY; KMart, 770 Broadway, New York, NY

#### **BONGO BALL**



Manufacturer or Distributor: Toys R Us, Inc.

Retailer(s): Toys R Us

Age Recommendation: "3+"

Warnings: "WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD..." (box); "WARNING: This is not a lifesaving device. Do not leave child unattended while device is in use" (product); and other warnings.

HAZARD: POTENTIAL FOR IMPACT AND OTHER SERIOUS INJURIES!

<u>This toy was identified in the following store in New York:</u> Toys R Us, 4081 State Highway 31, Clay, NY

NYPRG's list of Treacherous Toys includes eight toys and children's products from the USPIRG "Trouble in Toyland" list including:

#### **FUNKEYS CAR KEYS**



Label on toy: None Required By Law

Manufactured by Maison Joseph Battat, Ltd.

Type of hazard: Tests at 80+ decibels (dB). Close to ear toys should be less than 65 dB, according to hearing experts

Why toy is a problem: Prolonged exposure to loud noises harms small children's hearing. May violate F-963 loudness standard enforceable by CPSC

This toy was identified in the following stores in New York: Target, 2626 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY; Target, 40 Catherwood Road, Ithaca, NY; Target, 13505 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, College Point, NY; Target, 668 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY; Target, 9 City Place, White Plains, NY; Target, Hudson Valley Mall, 1300 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, NY; Target, 999 Corporate Drive, Westbury, NY

#### **BABY'S 2nd BIRTHDAY BALLOONS**



Label on toy: Statutory Balloon Choking Hazard Warning

Type of hazard: Balloons should not be marketed to children under eight, this toy is marketed to children two years old.

Manufactured by Unique Industries Inc, PA 19112 USA

Why toy is a problem: CPSC balloon warning restricts balloons from children under eight years. Parents and caregivers should not purchase balloons for toddler events.

This toy was identified in the following store in New York: Discount, 518 Willis Avenue, Bronx, NY

#### CAR WHEEL/HORN



Label on toy: None Required By Law

Type of hazard: Tests at 85+ dB but should be less than 80 dB according to hearing experts

Manufactured by Toystate.com

Why toy is a problem: Prolonged exposure to loud noises harms small children's hearing. May violate F-963 loudness standard enforceable by CPSC.

<u>This toy was identified in the following stores in New York</u>: Toys R Us, 60 South Broadway, White Plains, NY; Toys R Us, 30-02 Whitestone Expressway, Flushing, NY

#### **DORA BACKPACK**



Label on toy: None

Type of hazard: Phthalates are a developmental hazard

Manufactured by Global Design Concepts Inc.

Why toy is a problem: Tested at 320 ppm DBP, which is below federal standard (1000 ppm) but requires disclosure under Washington State and California law. Does not violate federal standard but phthalate warning required under Washington State law should be used by all manufacturers in all markets.

<u>This product was identified in the following stores in New York</u>: Target, 40 Catherwood Road, Ithaca, NY; Target, 999 Corporate Drive, Westbury, NY; Cookies, 510 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY

#### **DORA TUNES GUITAR**



Label on toy: None Required By Law

Type of hazard: Tests at 85+ dB but should be less than 80 dB according to hearing experts

Manufactured by Fisher-Price

Why toy is a problem: Prolonged exposure to loud noises harms small children's hearing. May violate F-963 loudness standard enforceable by CPSC.

<u>This toy was identified in the following stores in New York:</u> Target, 3857 State Highway 31, Liverpool, NY; Target, 40 Catherwood Road, Ithaca, NY; Walmart, 2405 Vestal Parkway East, Vestal, NY; Toys R Us, Hudson Valley Plaza, 100 Value Drive, Kingston, NY; Target, 9 City Place, White Plains, NY; Target, 13505 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, College Point, NY; Cookies, 510 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY

#### **DRAGSTER CARS**



Label on toy: Statutory Small Parts Warning

Type of hazard: Label is too small to read, contains small parts (rubber traction band on wheels)

Manufactured by http://www.zwindups.com/

Why toy is a problem: Small parts/label violation 16 CFR 1500.19(d)1-11 concerning "Prominence and conspicuousness of labeling statements" and its references to 16 CFR 1500.121

<u>This toy was identified in the following store in New York:</u> Toys R Us, Hudson Valley Plaza, 100 Value Drive, Kingston, NY

#### **SUPER PLAY FOOD SET**



Label on toy: Statutory Small Parts Warning

Type of hazard: Some food objects are small parts—other rounded food objects are bigger than choke tube but smaller than small ball tester.

Manufactured by Geoffrey LLC, subsidiary of Toys R Us.

Why toy is a problem: Toy food poses a special hazard because it looks as if it should be eaten. No violation, but regulation should be changed so round food is tested as small ball not small part.

This toy was identified in the following stores in New York: Toys R Us, Richmond Shopping Center, 2845 Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, NY; BabiesRUs, 24-30 Union Square East, New York, NY; Walmart, 2405 Vestal Parkway East, Vestal, NY; Toys R Us, Hudson Valley Plaza, 100 Value Drive, Kingston, NY; Toys R Us, 60 South Broadway, White Plains, NY; ToysRUs, Manhattan Mall, 901 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY, 10001; Toys R Us, 4081 State Highway 31, Clay, NY; Toys R Us, 30-02 Whitestone Expressway, Flushing, NY; ToysRUs, 300 Sunrise Highway, Valley Stream, NY

#### **SNAKE EGGS**



Label on toy: Age 4+

Type of hazard: Ingestion Hazard, especially due to ellipsoid shape.

Manufactured by GreenBrier International Inc.

Why toy is a problem: Near Small Part, shaped for easy swallowing. No violation, but magnets are near small parts and pose a choking hazard.

<u>This toy was identified in the following stores in New York:</u> Dollar Tree, 2264 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, NY; **Dollar Tree**, 2101 Elmwood Avenue, N Buffalo, NY

NYPIRG's list of Treacherous Toys contains six children's products from the CHEJ "Hidden Hazards: Toxic Chemicals Inside Children's Vinyl Back-to-School Supplies" list including:

#### **DISNEY'S MINNIE MOUSE RAIN SLICKER**



Minnie Mouse raincoat contained 25,700 ppm of DnOP. If this product were a children's toy that contained any part that could be placed in a child's mouth, this would be over 25 times the limit set by the federal ban.

This product was identified online: www.bing.com/shopping

#### MARVEL'S SPIDERMAN YOUTH RAIN PONCHO



The Spider Sense Spiderman Youth Rain Poncho contained 23,500 ppm of DnOP. If this product were a children's toy that contained any part that could be placed in a child's mouth, this would be over 23 times the limit set by the federal ban.

This product was identified online: www.bing.com/shopping

#### SMART FIT CHILDREN'S PINK RAINBOOTS



They contained an estimated 20,800 ppm of DEHP. If this product were a children's toy, this would be over 20 times the limit set by the federal ban. The Smart Fit Kids Pink Rainboot also contained an estimated 9,190 ppm of DnOP. If this product were a children's toy that contained any part that could be placed in a child's mouth, this would be over nine times the limit set by the federal ban.

<u>This product was identified in the following store in New York</u>: Payless, 510 Fulton Mall, Brooklyn, NY

#### **SMART FIT CHILDREN'S HEARTS & STARS RAINBOOTS**



They contained an estimated 3,450 ppm of DEHP. If this product were a children's toy, this would be over three times the limit set by the federal ban. The Smart Fit Kids Multi Rainboot also contained an estimated 10,200 ppm of DnOP. If this product were a children's toy that contained any part that could be placed in a child's mouth, this would be over 10 times the limit set by the federal ban.

<u>This product was identified in the following store in New York</u>: Payless, 510 Fulton Mall, Brooklyn, NY

#### **BRAVE BACKPACK**



The Brave Backpack contained an estimated 18,600 ppm of DnOP. If this product were a children's toy that contained any part that could be placed in a child's mouth, this would be over 18 times the limit set by the federal ban.

This product was identified online and in the following store in New York:

www.walmart.com; Kmart, 2803 Brewerton Road, Syracuse, NY

#### **ROCK BACKPACK**



The WVE "The Rock" Backpack contained an estimated 12,300 ppm of DnOP. If this product were a children's toy that contained any part that could be placed in a child's mouth, this would be over 12 times the limit set by the federal ban.

<u>This product was identified in the following store in New York</u>: Cookies, 510 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY