**Holiday Safety Tips**

**FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS FROM THE INSTITUTE FOR CHILDHOOD PREPAREDNESS**

### Kitchen Safety

If children have to stay in the kitchen with you, keep them **AT LEAST 3 FEET AWAY** from the oven and stove.

- **KEEP** the kitchen floor and counters clutter-free to avoid fires and falls.
- **KEEP** pot handles turned inwards and out of the reach of children.
- **KEEP** sharp utensils stored up high and out of the reach of children.
- **KEEP** children and pets out of the kitchen while cooking. If necessary, use a baby gate.
- **USE** the back burners instead of the front burners to avoid hot liquid scald burns.
- **DON’T FORGET** to turn off the oven and burners when you’re finished cooking.
- **HAVE** a fire extinguisher handy in case of a grease fire.
- **NEVER** let young children carry hot soup, as this can cause scald burns.
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Indoor Safety

MAKE SURE young children don’t accidentally consume alcoholic punch or eggnog during holiday parties.

TEST your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detector before the start of the holiday season.

If you have guests over, make sure to keep purses with medicine stored up high and OUT OF THE REACH of children.

Before turning on the fireplace, CHECK TO MAKE SURE children haven’t thrown in any toys, stockings, or flammable decor.

MAKE SURE all fireplaces have protective screens.

Make sure an adult is always supervising young children.

Make sure to turn off all decorative indoor lights before going to bed or leaving the house.

Stress the importance of handwashing, so children don’t spread germs during the holiday season.

Make sure to purchase all decor, electrical cords, and lights with UL safety certifications.

Immediately remove any wrapping paper, ribbons, or bows that can cause suffocation, strangulation, or choking in young children.