

# PESTICIDE EXPOSURE MAPPING



Where are your children exposed to pesticides in your home?

Pesticide exposure mapping is a way to learn where your child might be exposed to pesticides in your home.

A pesticide exposure map shows (1) where your children might be exposed to environmental pesticides, and (2) where your child might have direct access to pesticide containers (as well as other dangerous chemical containers). There are three parts to making a pesticide exposure map for your home.

1. Draw a simple map of each room in your house and yard. There is an example on the back of this page.
2. Watch your children for several days and mark on the map where your children spend time eating, sleeping, playing and watching TV. Look around these places and think about what else usually happens there.
  - Are they places in which adults walk when they first come home from work?
  - Are they places in which adults change out of their work clothes?
  - Are they places where adults leave or store their dirty work clothes?
  - Are they places where you spray pesticides for bugs? Or where you put poison for mice and rats?
  - Are they parts of your yard where insect or weed killers are sprayed?
  - Are they places where your landlord or employer sprays pesticides?

Each of these are the kinds of places where your children can be exposed to environmental pesticides!

3. Look at the world from your children's point of view. For example, get on your hands and knees in all of the places your children go in your home and yard. You can now see the world the way your children see it. Look around. What do you see?
  - Are there pesticide containers on counter tops and tables that you can reach?
  - Are there unlocked cabinets and shelves with pesticides and chemicals in your reach?
  - Can you reach dirty work clothes?

Each of these are the kinds of places where your children can be exposed directly to pesticides and other dangerous chemicals!

