

Children's Costume Jewelry Often Contains Harmful Substances

07/11/11 by *Elizabeth Smith*

Young children often dress up in odd costumes and jewelry while playing various games. Unfortunately, they frequently put jewelry pieces in their mouths, increasing their chances of swallowing numerous germs and harmful substances. Since many negligent importers and manufacturers keep marketing children's costume jewelry containing harmful substances (or covered with excessive lead-based paint), health concerns keep mounting. For this reason, all parents and caregivers are urged to check their children's costume jewelry to be sure it wasn't manufactured or imported by the companies named below, during the years referenced. A number of the children's costume jewelry recalls issued since January of 2010 are set forth below.

Recent Recalls of Children's Play Jewelry Items

- In June of 2011, **EK Success Brands** recalled about 75,000 **American Girl Crafts™ Pearly Beads & Ribbon Bracelets Kits** because they violated federal lead paint standards;
- In September of 2010, **D&D Distributing-Wholesale** recalled about 19,000 "**Love Tester™ Mood Rings**" and 4,000 **Necklaces** due to their excessive lead content that can cause "adverse health effects;"
- In July of 2010, **Tween Brands** recalled about 137,000 pieces of children's metal jewelry containing high levels of cadmium;
- In June of 2010, **SmileMakers Inc.**, of Spartanburg, South Carolina, recalled about 66,200 **Children's Happy Charm Bracelets** and 2,200 **Football Rings** because they contained unacceptable, high levels of the toxic substance cadmium;

- Also in June of 2010, **Wilton Industries** recalled about 7,300 **Children's Tiaras** because they contained an excessive amount of lead;
- In May of 2010, **Claire's Boutiques Inc.**, of Hoffman Estates, Illinois, recalled about 19,000 "**Best Friends**" **Charm Bracelet Sets** because they contained high levels of cadmium;
- In March of 2010, the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a warning concerning the high levels of cadmium in **Children's Winter and Holiday-Themed Charm Bracelets** (*an unknown quantity were sold*);
- In February of 2010, **Playmates Toys** of Costa Mesa, California, recalled about 252,000 **Children's Toy Jewelry Sets** because they contained excessive amounts of lead;
- **Schurman Fine Papers**, of Fairfield, California, recalled about 174,000 **Papyrus Brand Greeting Cards with Bracelets** in February of 2010 because the paint covering the bracelets contained so much lead that they violated the federal lead paint standard; and
- In January of 2010, **FAF Inc.**, of Greenville, Rhode Island, recalled 55,000 **Children's Metal Necklaces** (sold exclusively at Walmart's) because they contained extremely high levels of cadmium.