



**“Close and lock windows,
what looks normal to an
adult, may be deadly
to a child.”**

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Watching Window Safety

**Learn to recognize hazards
and prevent injuries.**





“All it takes is one touch, one trip, one fall and your life could change forever.”

Windows provide wonderful views to the outside world. However if not handled with care they can break and cause irreversible damage. Children are at a higher risk because of their curiosity and sheer energy.

One of the SMA’s main goals is to inform and educate the public about the primary intent of screens: a device to provide ventilation and protect from insects, not a product designed as protection from falls.

The following are tips to helping your family be safe around windows and their screens.

- Learn to recognize hazards and prevent injuries. What looks “normal” to an adult may be deadly to a child.
- If you need ventilation, open windows that are out of the reach of children.
- Do not place furniture near windows. Children with their boundless energy love to jump on beds and climb on furniture and they can quickly reach window ledges or sills and fall.
- Don’t leave young children alone, injuries can happen in seconds. Nothing can substitute careful supervision.
- Develop a family emergency plan to make sure family members know how to escape through any code-required emergency exit window or accessory.
- Do not remove cranks from casement and awning windows unless you know they will not be needed for an emergency exit. Cap the exposed studs with covers available from the manufacturer.
- You must be able to open windows in an emergency. Do not paint, nail or weather-strip them shut.
- Keep children away from open windows and don’t allow them to lean on the insect screens. Don’t depend on these screens to keep your child from falling out a window. Screens are designed to keep insects out ... not children in.
- Consult your local police and fire departments regarding home safety awareness and security tips.
- Keep window treatments (blinds, cords, drapes, etc.) out of children’s reach.

If you would like to learn more about SMA and the knowledge and benefits that they can offer visit www.smainfo.org.



“A child’s best protection is your undivided attention and supervision.”

