



Playground Safety Tip

Entanglement

Many children each year are hurt on playgrounds when they become entangled on the play equipment. Frequently it's the child's clothing, such as strings or cords that are attached to the clothes that become entangled. There are several things you can do to avoid entanglement.

First, check what the children are wearing on the playground. Children should not wear clothing with drawstrings, cords, or loose parts (in particular, look out for hoods with drawstrings). Children should also not wear jewelry, mittens that are connected by strings running through the arms, or bicycle helmets. All of these items have strings, cords, or straps that can become entangled on playground equipment.

Second, check your playground equipment. Things that may be on your equipment that could cause an entanglement include S-hooks, C-hooks, protruding bolts, gaps, and slides with two different sections that have been put together.



This Double Slide is one unit - it is not two sections that have been put together. Putting two sections together could create an entanglement hazard.

To avoid entanglements on these items, make sure all S-hooks and C-hooks are closed (you should not be able to fit a dime into the gap). Also check on any protruding bolts. There should not be any gaps between the bolt head and play equipment and the bolts should not be too long. Also check and make sure that all playground equipment with ropes have ropes that are attached on both ends (see picture to the right).

For more information about items that can cause entanglement, refer to the Consumer Product Safety Commission's Public Playground Safety Handbook (<http://www.cpsc.gov/PageFiles/122149/325.pdf>) and read Section 3.2 Entanglement and Impalement (pages 14-15).



The rope is connected to the play equipment on both ends.

Everyone at The Adventurous Child values playground safety and we'd be happy to answer any questions that you may have. Please feel free to email or call us at any time with your questions.

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