

What have these things got in common...



...that could kill your child?

A: the button battery that powers them.

If your child swallows a button battery, it can get stuck in their food pipe. It can then burn through to the main artery and badly harm or even kill them. This can happen very quickly.

Crawling babies up to pre-schoolers are at most risk.



Which batteries are most dangerous?

Lithium coin cell batteries are big enough to get stuck and strong enough to kill. They are slightly bigger than a 5 pence piece.

Smaller button batteries can still cause harm, especially if they are new.

Where are they?

Your child can find them in things like:

- 👉 small remote controls
- 👉 car key fobs or key finders
- 👉 musical cards and books
- 👉 light-up toys and novelty items
- 👉 nightlights
- 👉 digital scales
- 👉 thermometers
- 👉 old toys in the toy box

They may also find spare batteries that are stored within reach or have fallen from the pack.

Even used 'flat' batteries still hold enough charge to be dangerous.

Check your home

Hunt around your home for button batteries.

Keep products well out of your child's reach if the battery compartment isn't secured.

Store spare and 'flat' batteries well out of reach too.

Beware of bargains from online marketplaces or local discount shops. They may have button batteries your child can get to easily.

Has your child swallowed one?

There may be few symptoms. So trust your instincts. Don't delay. Get them to A&E or call 999 for an ambulance.

Don't let them eat or drink and don't make them sick.

More help from the safety experts

🌐 capt.org.uk/button-batteries

📱 @ChildAccidentPreventionTrust

