



January 2010

Re: Poison Prevention Poster Contest

Dear School Nurse:

As a member of the South Texas Poison Prevention Coalition, we would like to invite your 3rd and 4th grade elementary school students to participate in this year's poster contest in celebration of National Poison Prevention Week, March 14-20, 2010. The goal of this contest is to raise awareness amongst students and parents of poison center services and to educate the public about poison hazards and poison prevention. Poster contests are a proven method to increase awareness and we hope that every third and fourth grade student has the opportunity to participate.

While providing a valuable learning experience, the poster contest can also offer students the opportunity to win exciting prizes. Each entry will compete at a regional level for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place prizes. Posters should be turned in at the South Texas Poison Center via mail or in person. All posters must be turned in to the South Texas Poison Center by February 26, 2010. It is recommended that the nurse or a teacher collect all the posters from their school and mail all entries in together. All four winning posters will be sent to Washington, D.C. to participate in the national competition with the winner being selected as the National Poison Prevention Week Poster for the following year. This is a very exciting opportunity and if chosen as the national poster, the student and his or her poster receive a lot of national recognition.

We have chosen school nurses as the contacts for the poster contest because you are part of the coalition and you are most aware of how accidental poisonings can harm children. Enclosed you will find: Letter to Parents (English and Spanish version), Poster Contest Entry Form, Contest Information Sheet, and Guideline Sheet. Please feel free to make copies of the enclosed information and distribute to 3rd and 4th grade students in your school. Be sure that all students receive a copy of the guideline sheet because all guidelines must be followed.

If you have any questions please feel free to call us at the following offices: Harlingen: 956-365-8706, fax 956-365-8748, e-mail barrerav@uthscsa.edu or San Antonio 210-567-5762, fax 210-567-5718, e-mail jimenezc@uthscsa.edu. To download materials visit our website www.texaspoison.com which has all the enclosed poster information ready for print.

Thank you for helping us save lives in the community!

Sincerely,
South Texas Poison Center Education Department