

Hidden Objects and Milli's Home Hazard Hunt

from **Celebrating Chemistry**



Check off each object
as you find it!

Answers are on page 3.

- Bowl
- Broom
- Candle
- Flashlight
- Hammer
- Nail
- Paintbrush
- Pencil
- Salt shaker
- Toolbox
- Tube of toothpaste



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Milli's Home Hazard Hunt

Milli's most important wish for you and your family is safety in the classroom, the laboratory, and of course, at home. Chemistry plays an important role in keeping us safe. Fire extinguishers, for example, contain special chemicals that help put out fires. Some chemists work in laboratories creating new kinds of materials (e.g. paint, carpet, drywall) that are less likely to burn in a fire. Others improve the materials in your home to make them safer and less likely to rust, leak, or break (e.g. pipes, wires, refrigerators).

Wherever you are, it is important to avoid hazards. A hazard is a source of danger. Carbon monoxide is a gas that you cannot see or smell. It can be a hazard, but chemists have designed simple detectors that you plug into the wall to let you know if there is too much carbon monoxide gas inside your house.

Some hazards may not seem too dangerous, such as not using oven mitts or potholders when handling a hot pan, or plugging many appliances into an outlet, but they could be the cause of an accident or mishap. Each year millions of people are injured at home.* Accidents happen, but there are things we can do to make them less likely and to keep us safe at home.

You already follow Milli's Safety Tips when doing science experiments. Many of the same safety rules apply in the home. Sometimes injuries can be avoided by looking around and finding hazards before any accidents happen. Are you ready to put your planning and observation skills to good use? Are you ready to help your family stay safe?

Use your observation skills to look for five hazards in the room pictured on page 1. Can you find all of them? Look carefully for things that might be hanging, could easily be knocked over or be a danger for small children.

Where in your home do possible hazards exist? Go with an adult from room to room in your home and look for them. When you find one, talk about why it could be a hazard, and what can be done to correct it. Never try to correct a hazard yourself; your adult partner will either help or will contact a professional to fix it.

Earthquakes, floods, lightning storms, tornadoes, and hurricanes are all natural hazards and can happen when you least expect them. Every home should have a preparedness kit that has essential items like water, food, a flashlight, and a first aid kit. Information about hazard preparedness is available from the Department of Homeland Security, the American Red Cross, and your state or local government.

Milli wants you to remember that chemistry helps us prevent hazards by coming up with better and safer materials and ways to detect trouble before it gets out of hand. However, it is up to each of us to do our own part to keep our homes safe and to be prepared.

* The Home Safety Council's 2004 "State of Home Safety in America" report estimates nearly 21 million medical visits on average from unintentional injuries in the home.



