

What would be your answer, on a quiz show, if you were asked to name the No. 1 hazard in a kitchen?

The chances are the average New Bernian would say a sharp knife, a hot burner, or a dangerous pesticide. All of these answers would be wrong. According to the National Safety Council, children underfoot in a kitchen can cause more trouble then any other thing

then any other thing.

As the mothers (and fathers)
who are reading this column
well know, youngsters have a

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320 First Street ME 7-2159 habit of leaving marbles, crayons and toy trucks here and there on the floor. Such objects on a kitchen floor are booby traps when Mom tries to carry a pan of hot liquid, for example, across the room.

for example, across the room.
She may fall, spilling the liquid on herself or someone else. This is one of many reasons, says the Council, why a kitchen is anything but safe, even with the most modern conveniences.

How can you make your kitchen safer? If possible, keep children out of the kitchen. If not, teach them to stay away from cords, applicances and stoves. Turn in handles of utensils on stoves, and incidentally that's a wise practice whether you have small children in the home or not.

Keep knives in racks--away from children--and wipe up spilled liquids immediately from the floor. If there are items you want to make available to your child, such as cookies, place them within easy reach. Standing in a chair, and toppling to the floor, brings countless injuries to the tots of American every year.

Try to educate your small fry against meddling with dangerous insecticides and medicines. Better still, place them in a secure spot where they will be out of his reach. Despite your warnings, his curiosity can lead to tragedy.

Please, for the sake of your child, take today's Tot Talk seriously.



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