Activity 4. Memory Game

Objective

- To reinforce ways to keep lead from getting into children’s bodies and sources of lead paint and dust in a home.

Key Concepts

- There are four good ways for children to keep lead from getting into their bodies and staying there where it can make them sick.
- They should wash their hands with soap and water before they eat or sleep and after they play outdoors.
- They should leave their shoes near the outside door and wear slippers or socks when you are inside their homes, or wipe their feet well on a mat before entering.
- They should eat healthy foods.
- They should stay away from paint chips and dust.
- Children can get lead in their bodies, which can make them sick, from lead paint and lead dust. Lead paint and lead dust can come from painted radiators, window sills, woodwork, or door frames (in addition to dirt).

Materials

- Four Message Cards (provided at end of manual)
- Eight Peebee Paint Chip and Dusty Cards (provided at end of manual)

Preparation

- Make two photocopies of the pages with the four “Lead Busters” posters, the four Message Cards and the eight Peebee Paint Chip and Dusty Cards, onto heavy paper if possible.
- Color them or have the children color them.
- Cut the pages into cards.
- Cover them with clear contact paper (optional).

Introduction

- Ask the children whether they remember the felt board story about the two children who got very sick because they ate paint chips and played with dirt that contained lead.
- Ask the children whether they remember what they can do to keep lead from getting into their bodies and staying there.
• Point to the “Lead Busters” posters to reinforce the four prevention messages. Tell the children:
1. Wash your hands with soap and water before you eat or sleep and after you outdoor play.
2. Leave your shoes near the outside door, and wear slippers or socks when you are inside your home, or wipe your feet well on a mat before entering.
3. Eat healthy foods that keep lead from staying in your body. These foods include dried beans, milk, cheese, yogurt, meat and vegetables like greens, beans and broccoli.
4. Stay away from paint chips and dust.

• Introduce the characters Peebee Paint Chip and his cousin Dusty by showing the children some of the picture cards. Have them identify each of the Peebee and Dusty cards by asking “Is this Peebee or is it Cousin Dusty?”

• Point out that Peebee looks like a flake of peeling paint. Sometimes Cousin Dusty looks like dust from a piece of chalk, and sometimes Cousin Dusty looks like baby powder. Emphasize that Peebee and Dusty can come in different colors and can be found everywhere.

• Point out some of the places that Peebee Paint Chip can be found, using the cards to illustrate. Point out some of the places that Dusty can be found, using the cards to illustrate

• Shuffle the cards and spread them out face down on the floor in front of the children.

Procedure
• Have the children take turns turning two cards over at a time over to see the pictures, and trying to remember from turn to turn the location of the various cards so that they can match them up in pairs.

• Each time a child turns up a picture of Peebee Paint Chip or Dusty, ask what the picture is, whether it’s Peebee Paint Chip or Dusty, and where in the home it is (on the window, radiator, door frame, etc.)

• Each time a child turns up a picture of one of the lead buster messages, ask the child to recite the prevention message aloud, beginning with the phrase, “I can beat lead by...” and finishing with one of the lead buster messages.

• Praise the child’s response and have him or her return to the group.

• When a child succeeds in turning over two matching cards, the child can keep those cards and take another turn.

• Continue until all the cards have been matched and removed from the floor (or until everyone has had at least one turn if time and attention do not allow completion).
Closure
• Ask the children whether they have tried to follow any of the lead busters messages.
• Correct any misunderstandings that the children may have (see activity 1 for examples).
• Talk to any child who seems worried or upset about lead. Try to discover what is bothering him or her. You may wish to speak to the child’s parent or guardian about his or her response to the activity.

Home-School Connection
• Provide basic lead poisoning prevention information to families through newsletters or flyers, including the four lead busters messages taught to the children.

Extension: Healthy Food Memory
The same procedure can be followed using pictures of healthy foods made into cards to reinforce the concept of healthy foods which help to keep lead from staying in our bodies. (Pictures of healthy foods are in the back of the manual.)
Science Activities

Activity 5. Lead Dust Simulation No. 1

Objective

- To explain to children why lead dust is harmful and to show how dust spreads.

Key Concepts

- There are parts of the body that we can’t see but we need to live (heart, skeleton, brain).
- Lead can make you sick. It’s a sickness you can never get better from.
- When dust gets on your hands and clothes, it can spread around.
- Dust on your hands gets cleaned off when you wash your hands.

Introduction

- Explain to the children that lead is a poison that can make them sick and can hurt their brains, that it’s a sickness that they might never get better from, and that old lead paint has lead in it.
- Explain that when something hard or rough rubs on wood with lead paint on it, very tiny dust is formed. It can’t be seen because it is so small, but the dust has the poison in it and can hurt children, especially their brains.
- Discuss the sources of lead in the home and discuss the sources of lead paint and lead dust in a home or day care center, illustrating with the pictures at the end of this manual. (Use the manual for background information.)
- Explain that it is all right to touch chalk dust, because it is not poisonous, but if this were lead dust, it would be poisonous, and it shouldn’t be touched.

Materials

- Chalk board for each child
- Chalk for each child

Preparation

- Distribute a chalk board and chalk to each child.
Procedure

• Ask the children to draw whatever they like on the chalk board.
• After a while, ask them to hold up their hands and tell what they notice.
• If necessary, point out that there is chalk dust on their hands.
• Ask them to look at their clothing and tell what they notice.
• If necessary, point out that there is chalk dust on their clothes.
• Ask them how they think the dust got there.
• Ask them what they think would happen if they touched more things with their hands.
• Ask them how they think germs and lead dust spread.
• Ask them what they think they should do.
• Have them wash their hands.

Closure

After they come back from washing their hands, ask them:
• What did you learn about dust spreading?
• How can we stop it from spreading?

Home-School Connection

• Include information in your parent newsletter about this activity and its goals, as well as basic tips for preventing lead poisoning in the home (provided in the manual).
Activity 6. Lead Dust Simulation No. 2

Objective
• To explain to children why lead dust is bad and to show children how dust spreads.

Key Concepts
• There are parts of the body that we can’t see but we need to live (heart, skeleton, brain).
• Lead can make you sick. It’s a sickness you can never get better from.
• Dust spreads to your hands or to a surface when you hold an object (for example a toy, bottle, pacifier, etc.) that touched the chalk dust.
• Dust spreads when you touch the surface with your hand that has dust on it.
• Dust spreads to your clothes once it gets on your hands.
• Dust is cleaned up when you wash your hands.

Introduction
• Explain to the children that lead is a poison that can make them sick and can hurt their brains, that it’s a sickness that they might never get better from, and that old lead paint has lead in it.
• Explain that when something hard or rough rubs on wood with lead paint on it, very tiny dust is formed. It can’t be seen because it is so small, but the dust has the poison in it and can hurt children, especially their brains.
• Discuss the sources of lead in the home and discuss the sources of lead paint and lead dust in a home or day care center, illustrating with the pictures at the end of this manual. (Use the manual for background information.)
• Explain to the children that the “dust” in this activity is made of a kind of powder made from corn, called corn starch. This powder is not poisonous, and it’s OK to touch it, but lead dust is poisonous, and you should not touch it. You can see this powder, even though it is made up of tiny, tiny pieces, but you can’t see lead dust. The tiny pieces of lead dust are much, much smaller.

Materials
• Corn starch
• A few small toys and pacifiers
• A few old dark colored socks
• Several trays
Preparation

- Cover half of the trays with corn starch.

Procedure

- Have children take turns placing specific objects in corn starch and then setting them down in a clean tray.
- Ask them what they notice.
- Allow them to touch the second tray with their hands.
- Ask them what they notice.
- Have children take turns putting old socks on their hands and moving them through corn starch, and then onto a clean tray.
- Have children put old socks on over their shoes and let them step on the corn starch to see how it gets picked up by their feet.
- Have them watch how it spreads around on a designated portion of the floor when they walk on it.
- Ask them what they notice.
- After a while, ask them to hold up their hands and tell what they notice.
- If necessary, point out that there is “dust” on their hands.
- Ask them to look at their clothing and tell what they notice.
- If necessary, point out that there is “dust” on their clothes.
- Ask them how they think the “dust” got there.
- Ask them what they think would happen if they touched more things with their hands.
- Ask them how they think germs and lead dust spread.
- Ask them what they think they should do.
- Have them wash their hands and the toys and pacifiers.
- Show how the “dust” is spread around when it is swept but is cleaned up nicely when it is mopped up or wiped up with a wet towel.
- Let the children try cleaning up the “dust” with a wet towel.

Closure

After they come back from washing their hands, ask them:

- What did you learn about dust spreading?
- What would happen if you touched your mouth with your hands before you washed them?
- What would happen if you touched food with your hands before you washed them?
• How can we keep lead dust from spreading?

Home-School Connection

• Include information in your parent newsletter about this activity and its goals, as well as basic tips for preventing lead in poisoning the home (provided in the manual).
Art Activities

Activity 7. Lead Sources Collage

Objective
• To explain to children why lead dust is harmful and where lead dust can occur in a home or day care.

Key Concepts
• There are parts of the body that we can’t see but we need to live (heart, skeleton, brain).
• Lead can make you sick. It’s a sickness you can never get better from.
• Lead dust is created from peeling, flaking paint.
• Lead dust is created when lead-painted surfaces rub against each other.

Introduction
• Explain to the children that lead is a poison that can make them sick and can hurt their brains, that it’s a sickness that they might never get better from, and that old lead paint has lead in it.
• Explain that when something hard or rough rubs on wood with lead paint on it, very tiny dust is formed. It can’t be seen because it is so small, but the dust has the poison in it and can hurt children, especially their brains.
• Discuss the sources of lead in the home and discuss the sources of lead paint and lead dust in a home or day care center, illustrating with the pictures at the end of this manual. (Use the manual for background information.)

Materials
• A stack of home-oriented magazines (with pictures of interiors of old homes, or home renovation or repairs, if possible)
• Scissors
• Glue
• Sheets of paper for each child, or large newsprint for class project

Preparation
• Cover tables with newspaper to protect from glue drippings.
• Set out materials in the workspace.
 Procedure
• Ask children to cut out pictures of places that can have lead dust or lead paint.
• Each child could create his or her own collage,
  or
• They could all work together to create a larger group collage.

 Closure
• Ask the children what they learned about where lead dust can be found
• Ask the children why it is important to know where lead dust is.

 Home-School Connection
• Include information in your parent newsletter or a flyer about this activity and its goals, as well as basic tips for preventing lead poisoning in the home (provided in the manual).