



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 23-29, 2016

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

One of government's important responsibilities is to keep its constituents safe from environmental hazards. Lead poisoning is among the most pervasive of these, as lead occurs in soil, groundwater, and human-made materials such as paint and plumbing fixtures. Lead exposure is especially harmful to children under the age of six.

Protecting children from lead is vital to lifelong health. Even small amounts of lead in the body have shown to impact IQ, ability to pay attention, and academic achievement. The damaging effects of lead exposure often go undetected, as initial symptoms may not be apparent. A blood lead test is the best way to identify if a child has been exposed to lead.

Although lead can be found in many products and locations, lead exposure is preventable. I encourage Californians to learn about the risk and potential sources of lead exposure, and the steps we can take to protect our children.

Sincerely,


EDMUND G. BROWN JR.