

Living Safely

with disabilities and special health needs

Halloween Safety

Although accidents can occur at any time, the hectic nature of Halloween increases the risk for accidental injuries to trick-or-treaters and their families.

Halloween Walking Safety

Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.

Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.

When crossing the street, put electronic devices like phones away and keep your head up as you walk or roll. Don't run across the street.

Always walk or roll on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.

Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

Watch for curbs, broken sidewalks, and other hazards.

Halloween Costumes:

Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.

Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can make it hard for you to see.

Carry glow sticks or flashlights to help you see and help you be seen by drivers.

When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls. Be aware of wearing things around your neck that could get caught on something.

Halloween Candy:

Inspect the candy that you get. Make sure the candy has not been opened.

Make sure the candy is candy and not a cannabis edible or other inedible item like a small toy.

Pets

Be aware that Halloween candy can poison your pet. You must keep chocolate, cocoa, candy and anything sugarless (contains an artificial sweetener) out of their sight and reach. If any of these items are swallowed, get help quickly and contact your vet or animal poison control. These products can be toxic causing vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, or even death depending on the item and the amount (or dose) that was swallowed.

We value the expertise of our partners in safety who have demonstrated their commitment to inclusive healthy communities. Portions of this resource have been adapted from Safe Kids Worldwide (www.safekids.org) and the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (www.njpies.org).

The information contained in *Living Safely with Disabilities and Special Health Needs (Living Safely)* is provided for educational and informational purposes only. The content contains general information and may not reflect a person's individual needs or current legal developments or information. Children's Specialized Hospital makes no guarantee, either communicated or implied, about the accuracy, application, appropriateness, or completeness of the information within *Living Safely*, or at any other website to which it is linked. Children's Specialized Hospital specifically relinquishes all liability with respect to any person's actions, taken or not taken, based upon any or all of the information or other contents from *Living Safely*.

This initiative was funded in part by an Inclusive Healthy Communities Grant from the Division of Disability Services, New Jersey Department of Human Services.

Children's
Specialized Hospital
An RWJBarnabas Health facility