
Ask Before You Taste! — Lesson Plan

Grade: Pre-K–2 | Duration: 35–45 minutes | CASEL Domain: Responsible Decision-Making

Objective: Students will learn to identify potential poison look-alikes, practice the "ask first" rule, and know how to call Poison Control.

Essential Question: *"Why should you NEVER taste something unless a grown-up says it's safe?"*

Materials: The personalized story, Look-alike picture cards (candy vs. medicine, juice vs. cleaner), Poison Control number cards, Paper and crayons

Vocabulary: Poison, Look-alike, Medicine, Cleaning products, Ask first, Poison Control, Dangerous, Label, Safe, Emergency

ANTICIPATORY SET (5 MIN)

Show pictures of candy and colorful medicine side by side. Ask: "Can you tell which is which?" Reveal: "Sometimes you CAN'T. That's why we have ONE rule."

DIRECT INSTRUCTION (15 MIN)

Read aloud. Pause at each look-alike. Ask: "Would you have known?" Emphasize: the answer is almost always "ask a grown-up." Teach the Poison Control number.

GUIDED PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Look-Alike Card Sort. Practice the Poison Control phone call.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Create an "Ask Before You Taste" safety poster for home.

CLOSURE (5 MIN)

Recite together: "If I didn't put it there and I don't know what it is — I ASK!" Know the number: 1-800-222-1222.

ASSESSMENT

Can children identify look-alikes? Can they recite Poison Control number? Exit ticket: "What should you do if you find something you don't recognize?"

DIFFERENTIATION

Support: Use clear picture pairs for sorting. Practice the phone number as a song.

Extend: Create a "Poison Safety Guide" for the home. Research: what are the most common accidental poisonings?

HOME CONNECTION

CRITICAL: Send home Poison Control number card (1-800-222-1222). Ask families to check medicine cabinet and under-sink storage.
