

# Children, Health and the Environment

“Every child has the right to live in a healthy, supportive environment - an environment that encourages growth and development, and protects from disease.”

*Dr LEE Jong-wook, Director-General  
World Health Organization*

*(excerpt from Inheriting the World:  
The Atlas of Children's Health and the Environment,  
June 2004)*

The World Health Organization (WHO) is working to make children's lives healthier, safer and happier in the places where they live, learn and play.

Every year over 5 million children ages 0-14 die, mainly in the developing world, from diseases related to the environment. These diseases include:

- ☹ Diarrhoea, due to unsafe water and food.
- ☹ Malaria and other diseases transmitted by insects, snails and other animals.
- ☹ Acute respiratory infections, favoured by air pollution.
- ☹ Unintentional injuries such as those due to road traffic injury, drowning, burns and poisoning.

These deaths can be prevented. Governments, authorities and every child and adult need to do a lot more to tackle environmental risks to health.

Every child has the right to grow up in safe and healthy homes, schools, and communities. As a youth member participating in the children's summit, you are called to play a major role.

Show that you care about health and the environment! Tell your friends, school mates and family about the need to protect the environment so as to protect your health and that of the coming generations.

Ensure that you and your family, friends and neighbours know how to create healthy, clean and safe places to live, grow, learn and enjoy nature.

Your active participation is very valuable!

Here are some basic recommendations and actions you may take, teach and promote.

Ready... go!!

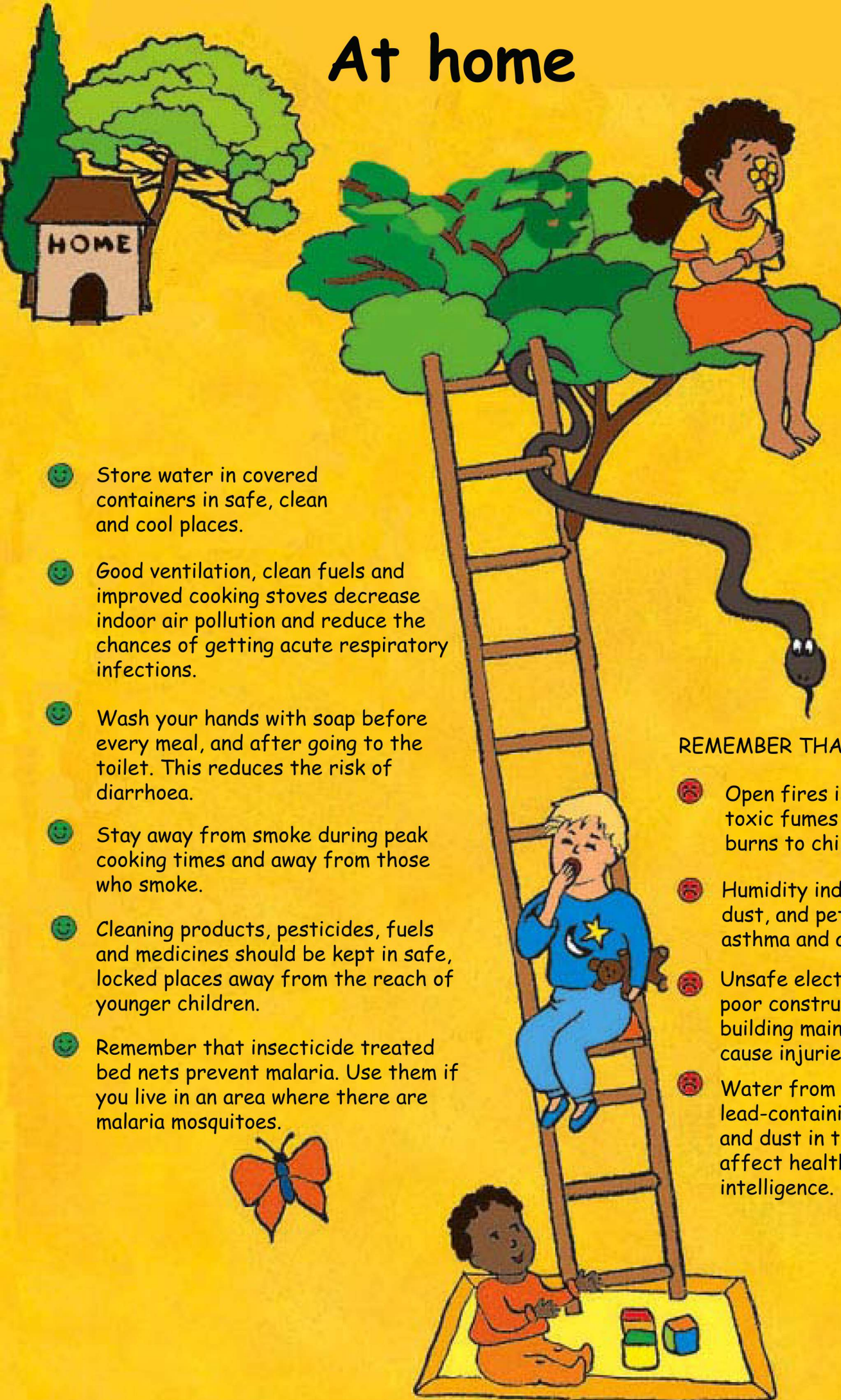


**World Health  
Organization**





# At home



- 😊 Store water in covered containers in safe, clean and cool places.
- 😊 Good ventilation, clean fuels and improved cooking stoves decrease indoor air pollution and reduce the chances of getting acute respiratory infections.
- 😊 Wash your hands with soap before every meal, and after going to the toilet. This reduces the risk of diarrhoea.
- 😊 Stay away from smoke during peak cooking times and away from those who smoke.
- 😊 Cleaning products, pesticides, fuels and medicines should be kept in safe, locked places away from the reach of younger children.
- 😊 Remember that insecticide treated bed nets prevent malaria. Use them if you live in an area where there are malaria mosquitoes.

## REMEMBER THAT:

- 😞 Open fires in the home give toxic fumes and can cause burns to children.
- 😞 Humidity indoors, moulds, dust, and pets can trigger asthma and allergies
- 😞 Unsafe electrical wiring, poor construction and building maintenance can cause injuries.
- 😞 Water from lead pipes and lead-containing paint and dust in the home may affect health and intelligence.



# In school



- ☺ Inform your class mates about the need to create healthy environments, and how to do it.
- ☺ A well maintained, clean and well lit school facilitates learning.
- ☺ Try to learn more about chemical safety and health. Request this as part of your school curricula.
- ☺ Maintain clean, well ventilated, well lit school buildings to promote health and learning.
- ☺ Request clean running water and separate toilets for boys and girls in order to ensure hygiene.

## REMEMBER THAT:

- ☹ Dirty and polluted soil has bugs that may spread diseases and chemicals that may affect health.
- ☹ Traffic noise distracts from learning.
- ☹ Pesticides can be dangerous and should only be used if necessary and with great care.



# Within your community



- Request smoke-free public places in your community.
- Learn how to recycle and manage waste, so your community stays clean.
- Request safer roads and well-organized traffic.
- Find out if leaded gasoline is still used in your community. If so, ask parents and teachers to take action.
- Plant trees. They provide protection from the sun.
- Clean up streams.
- Take care of children in swimming areas, or when playing in ponds and creeks.
- Slides and swings should be safe and well maintained to avoid injuries.
- Use helmets when riding on motorcycles, scooters and bicycles.



REMEMBER THAT:

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_29860](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_29860)

