



## Frequently Asked Questions About Lead in Candy

### WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH LEAD IN CANDY?

Years ago, Environmental Health Coalition spearheaded an effort to get lead out of candy products to ensure the health of all children. California passed a law to regulate and audit candy manufacturing processes for lead contamination. It remains one of the most important public health victories in the nation.

### WHAT IS LEAD POISONING AND HOW DOES IT HURT CHILDREN?

Lead is a dangerous metal that can be found in dirt, dust and paint. Even small amounts of lead are not safe for children; harmful to developing brains and responsible for irreversible developmental problems. A child can have lead poisoning and not look or act sick, which is why it's important to have your children tested by a doctor.

### ARE MOST CANDIES IN CALIFORNIA CERTIFIED AS LEAD FREE?

Yes. Thanks to the efforts of Environmental Health Coalition's and partners, candy monitoring and testing occurs on a regular basis, followed by the immediate removal of any candies found with lead from store shelves.

### I GREW UP EATING CANDY AND THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH ME.

It is only in the last ten years that candy has been tested for lead. No one is sure if lead in candy is a new problem or an old problem. What we are sure of is that lead is very dangerous for our children. When EHC found out about the problem, we took action as no child should be eating this poison.

### HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN CANDY?

For more information, please explore [www.EnvironmentalHealth.org](http://www.EnvironmentalHealth.org) or contact Environmental Health Coalition at (619) 474-0220. Ask your health care provider to have your child tested for lead during their regular check-ups until age six.

