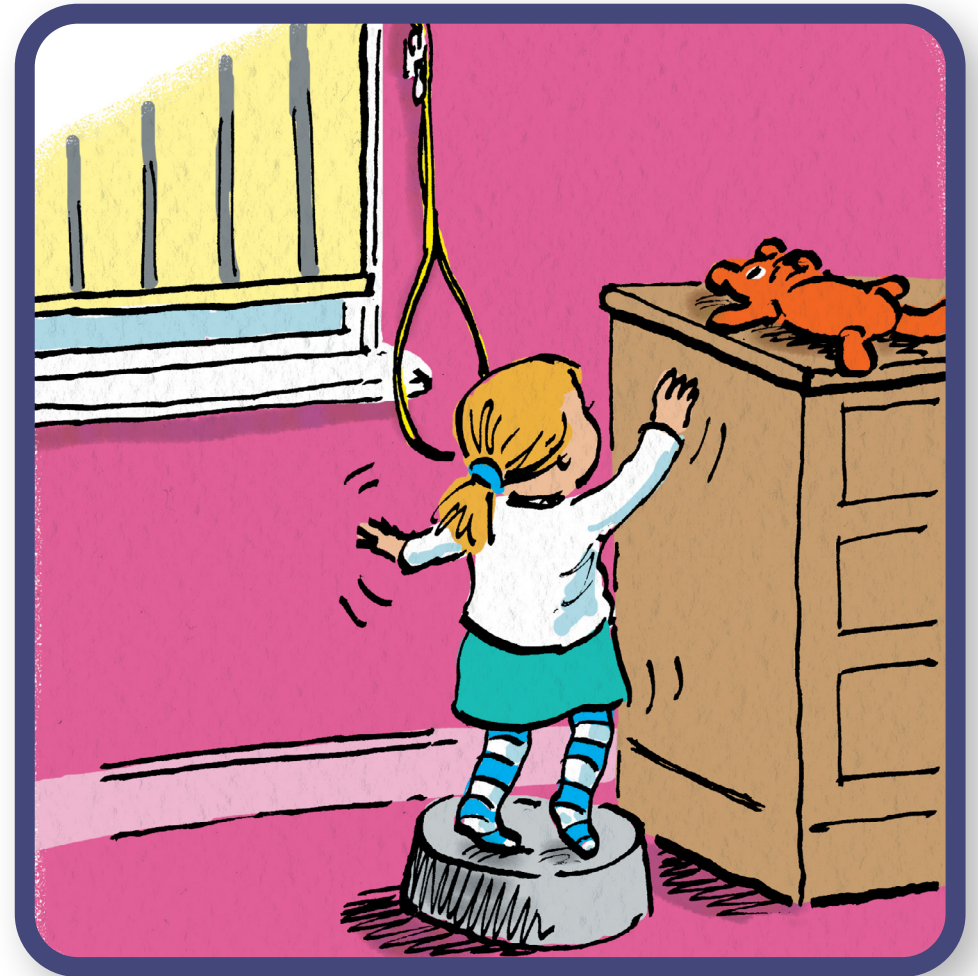


I might get strangled on a hanging blind cord



Make it
Safe

Blinds dangers

Aims and objectives

Recognise how children explore and climb, highlighting the hazard of strangulation through hanging blind cords or chains.

Activity/Session

Parents/carers discuss how a toddler explores and climbs. Consider the scenarios for blind cord accidents and discuss how these could be prevented. Demonstrate use of a cleat hook.

Outcomes

Learners able to:
Understand risk reduction and prevention ideas in avoiding blind cord strangulation.

Session notes

Surprising facts

- Toddlers are increasingly mobile and able to climb on or near to window sills.
- They lack any sense of the danger of this.
- It can take just 15 seconds for a toddler to lose consciousness if they get tangled in a blind cord. Brain death can occur in a few minutes.

How might a toddler be at risk from blind cord strangulation?

- Toddlers like to climb to explore but are unsteady and can reach a blind cord or chain.
- Their cot or bed may be close to a window that has a hanging blind cord or chain.
- They may be playing in a room where there are blind cords or chains, like a lounge.

What can you do to stop this kind of accident from happening?

- Fit a cleat hook and use it every time you open or close the blinds.
- Do not have blinds fitted in children's rooms or buy blinds with safety features.
- Move furniture or toy boxes away from windows.
- Make sure any blind cords or chains in the house are safely secured, not just bedrooms.