

Scooter Safety

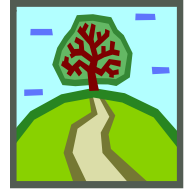
Facts About Scooters



◆ Sixty percent of injuries from riding a scooter could be prevented if riders would wear protective gear.

- ◆ Scooter injuries include broken bones or dislocations, abdominal injuries caused when children fall onto the handlebars, chipped teeth and abrasions.

- ★ **Ride in safe areas.** Scooters belong in parks, not on streets or sidewalks next to car traffic. Riders should choose only smooth surfaces for riding.



Scooter Safety Tips

In 2000, there were 30,000 scooter-related injuries reported in the U.S.! These are some ways to reduce your child's risk of injury:

- ★ **SUPERVISION.** Children less than eight years old should not use scooters without very close adult supervision.



- ★ **Always wear protective gear.** Experts say that riders should wear a padded helmet **AND** knee and elbow pads. Do not wear wrist guards when riding a scooter because they get in the way of steering the scooter.

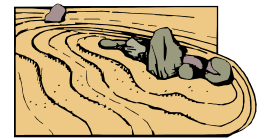
- ★ Young children do not understand the risks they are taking. They are also not coordinated enough to stop a scooter well. Children can crash into walls because they could not stop the scooter in time.



- ★ **Only one rider.** Most scooters are made for only one rider. Children should never try to ride with another person on their scooter.



- ★ **Avoid anything that could cause the front wheel to stop.** Riding over puddles, speed bumps, sewer grates, sand, gravel or even a small bump in the sidewalk can stop the front wheel. It is better to ride around bumps than to fall off.



- ★ **Don't ride in the dark or in bad weather.** If a rider chooses to ride in the dark it is important that the scooter have a headlight and taillight.



- ★ **Make sure you are seen.** Wear bright colors like yellow, orange or bright pink so people can see you coming toward them.
- ★ **Stay Alert. Do not wear headphones** while riding a scooter. It is important to be able to hear horns and other traffic noises.