How does lead poison your child’s body?

It can:

• Slow growth
• Cause learning and behavior problems
• Cause hearing problems and headaches
• Damage the brain and nervous system

What are some signs of lead poisoning?

Lead poisoning can have no symptoms – even people who look healthy can have lead poisoning.

These are the symptoms of lead poisoning:

• Tired or cranky
• Diarrhea / constipation
• High blood pressure
• Vomit
• Nausea
• Weight loss
• Irritability
• Anemia
• Convulsions, coma, and death

How can lead enter my child’s body?

• Putting their hands covered with lead dust in their mouths
• Putting objects that are made with lead in their mouths
  Examples: bb gun pellets and fishing weights
• Eating paint chips or soil that has lead
• Breathing in lead dust

Questions about Lead?

• Ask your doctor for a blood lead test.
• Call the Texas Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-588-1248.
• Use Lead-Safe Cleaning Tips: Keep your home clean by by following these tips weekly.
  • Available online at www.dshs.state.tx.us/lead

Health Effects in Children
micrograms per deciliter (μg/dL)

- 100μg/dL: Brain disorders
- 90μg/dL: Kidney & stomach problems
- 70μg/dL: Nerve problems, anemia, & colic
- 40μg/dL: Decreased red blood cells
- 30μg/dL: Slower reflexes
- 20μg/dL: Lower IQs
- 10-15μg/dL: Learning & developmental deficits, low birth weight, & premature birth

For more information on lead poisoning, please call 1-800-588-1248 or go to www.dshs.texas.gov/lead/