

What will happen if your child is lead poisoned?

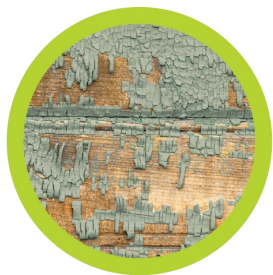
Someone from the Scott County Health Department will visit you and help you find the lead hazards poisoning your child.

They will explain how to take care of the problem and provide you with more information about lead poisoning.

How can I protect my child from lead poisoning?

Keep your child away from areas of peeling and chipping paint.

Be sure to check the following areas:



- Window Sills
- Window Troughs (area between the storm window and inside window sash)
- Outdoor Porches & Play Areas

Be sure to check your home and other homes where your child visits.

Wash your hands before meals and snacks. Also wash your child's toys or pacifier often.

If you plan to do painting or remodeling in a pre-1978 home, find out how to do the work safely.

Where can I get more information?

- Scott County Health Department
Phone: (563) 326-8618
Email: health@scottcountyiowa.com
Web: www.scottcountyiowa.com
- Iowa Department of Public Health
Phone: 1(800) 972-2026 or (515) 281-3479
Web: www.idph.iowa.gov/lpp



YOUR HEALTH.
Our priority.

Lead Poisoning



Has Your Child Been Tested?



What is childhood lead poisoning?

Childhood lead poisoning occurs when children have too much lead in their bodies.

How do children become lead poisoned?

Lead poisoning is usually caused by lead paint found in homes built before 1978. Many of the homes in Scott County were built before 1978.

Children become lead poisoned if they:

- Put lead paint chips in their mouths.
- Put dusty or dirty hands, toys, bottles or pacifiers in their mouths.
- Chew on surfaces painted with lead paint.
- Play in dirt or a sandbox near an old building or where an old building was torn down.
- Breathe in dust from lead paint that is being sanded, scraped, or removed with a heat gun.



Why should you be worried about your child's lead level

VENOUS BLOOD LEAD LEVEL milligrams per deciliter	POTENTIAL HARM
10	Learning Problems Hearing Problems Behavior Problems Slower Growth Lower IQ
20	Nerve Problems Slower Reflexes
40	Anemia
60	Kidney Damage
80	Brain Swelling Convulsions Coma
100 or higher	Death

Lead poisoning can affect your child for their whole life and it is completely preventable.

How can you tell if your child is lead poisoned?

- Most children with lead poisoning do not look or act sick.
- The only way to tell if your child is lead poisoned is to have their blood tested.



How often should your child be tested for lead poisoning?

- All children should be tested at 1 year of age or when they are able to move around by themselves.
- Many children have normal blood lead levels when born and then become lead poisoned when they become more active.
- Children should be retested at least once each year until they are six years old.
- Ask your health care provider to do a blood lead test whenever your child has a check-up.
- This test is required for all children before they enter kindergarten in Iowa.