

## Arum Lily

*Zantedeschia aethiopica*

All parts

## Castor Oil Plant

*Ricinis communis*

Seeds

## Deadly Nightshade

*Atropa belladonna*

Berries

## Lily of the Valley

*Convallaria majalis*

All parts

## Oleander

*Nerium oleander*

All parts

## Poinsettia

*Euphorbia pulcherrima*

All parts including the sap

## Rosary Bean

*Abrus precatorius*

Seeds

## Mushrooms

*Amanita* spp. & *Agaricus xanthodermus*

All parts

## White Cedar Tree

*Melia azedarach*

Fruit

## Yellow Oleander

*Thevetia* spp.

All parts

## Are they in your garden?

The plants listed in this brochure are **just a sample** of the poisonous plants that can place a child's life at risk

For a comprehensive listing of poisonous plants and planting suggestions refer to the Kidsafe NSW Playground Advisory Unit's *Plants for Playspaces*.

In cases of suspected poisoning you can get advice 24 hours a day from

**POISONS INFORMATION  
CENTRE  
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*This brochure was originally developed by  
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# Poisonous Plants to Avoid



Many of us would never suspect that common garden plants can put a child's life in danger.

In a number of plants, only some parts are poisonous, such as the leaves, the seeds or the bulbs. In other plants, everything is poisonous.

Fortunately nature protects children to a large extent. The attractive leaves and berries in toxic plants taste vile enough to put off the most adventurous eater.

But we can't be too careful. Take the time to find out some of the dangers which might be hiding in your garden.

Find out if any plants in your garden are poisonous, remove them or keep children well away from them.



## Arum Lily

*Zantedeschia aethiopica*

All parts of these common white lilies will cause burning in the mouth if eaten. Serious illness is uncommon as the burning prevents large quantities from being consumed.

**Symptoms:** Burning mouth, skin rash.

## Castor Oil Plant

*Ricinis communis*

Only the chewed seeds are dangerous, however 2-3 seeds can cause death.

**Symptoms:** Burning mouth and throat, bloody diarrhoea 3-36 hours after ingestion, rapid and feeble pulse, muscular cramps in calves and abdomen and bluish discolouration of skin.

## Deadly Nightshade

*Atropa belladonna*

The round purple/black berries are appealing to children and highly toxic.

**Symptoms:** Dry throat, thirstiness, palpitations and flushed dry skin.



## Lily of the Valley

*Convallaria majalis*

All parts of this attractive garden plant are poisonous. The fruit are globular red berries about 12mm in diameter.

**Symptoms:** Nausea, vomiting, headache, an excessive flow of saliva and eventually heart failure.

## Oleander

*Nerium oleander*

All parts of this plant, with flowers ranging from white to pink, apricot and red, are poisonous.

**Symptoms:** Vomiting, stomach pain, blood stained faeces, dizziness, irregular heartbeat and unconsciousness. Death results from heart failure or respiratory paralysis.



## Poinsettia

*Euphorbia pulcherrima*

A popular pot plant with bright red, white or yellow leaves. Has a white, milky sap.

**Symptoms:** The sap can cause extreme irritation to the skin and eyes. All parts are poisonous if eaten and can cause severe vomiting, purging, delirium, and can lead to death.

## Rosary Bean

*Abrus precatorius*

The seeds of this native Australian plant are very attractive, and very poisonous. One crushed seed contains enough toxins to kill an adult.

**Symptoms:** Vomiting, diarrhoea, weak pulse, circulatory collapse, coma, potential death.

## Mushrooms

*Amanita spp. & Agaricus xanthodermus*

These fungi are very common in lawns and moist areas. All parts of the fungi are poisonous.

**Symptoms:** Severe abdominal pain, excessive thirst, vomiting, diarrhoea, lowered blood pressure.

## White Cedar Tree

*Melia azedarach*

Large trees growing to heights of 30m that produce fleshy fruit. Six to eight fruits can be fatal for children. **Symptoms:** Nausea, spasms, vomiting, diarrhoea, severe thirst, cold sweats, grinding of teeth, sleepiness, paralysis, potential death.

## Yellow Oleander

*Thevetia spp.*

All parts of this plant are poisonous, especially the kernels. One kernel can be lethal for infants.

**Symptoms:** Burning sensation in the mouth, dry throat, vomiting, diarrhoea, shortness of breath, dilated pupils, slow irregular pulse followed by collapse and death in serious cases.

child safety is no accident

Make Yours a  
**Kids safe**  
garden