

Protect Your Family From Lead

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What do you know about lead?
- What would you like to know about it?

Definitions:

- Lead-based – contains a dangerous amount of lead
- Absorb – to take in or soak up



Reading

14 Lead is **harmful** to adults. Lead is very harmful to children. It can cause
27 brain damage. It can cause behavior and learning problems. It can cause slowed
growth and hearing problems.

31 Babies and young children like to put their hands in their mouths. They put
45 toys and other objects in their mouths, too. These things may have lead dust on
60 them. Young children may put paint chips and dirt, or soil, in their mouths. These
75 may have lead in them.

80 Many homes built before 1978 have lead-based paint. Lead may be found
93 inside and outside these housing units. Soil around the house may have lead-based
107 paint in it. The soil may also have lead from other sources such as past use of leaded
125 gas in cars.

128 Household dust may have lead in it. Dust can pick up lead from old lead-
143 based paint. It can also pick up lead from soil tracked into a home. Lead can enter
160 the body through breathing in lead dust.

167 Inside or outside, peeling, chipping, chalking, or cracking lead-based paint
178 needs to be taken care of right away. Look on windows and window sills. Look on
194 doors and door frames. Look on stairs and railings. Look on porches and fences.

208 Young, growing bodies absorb lead easily. Keep your family safe from lead
220 inside and outside your home.

225

Level 3.0

Understanding

1. What does the word **harmful** mean? _____

2. What age homes may have lead-based paint? _____

3. How does lead affect the body? _____

4. Where should you look for lead? _____

5. How can lead enter the body? _____

6. Why is there special concern about young children and lead? _____

Writing

Choice A: Retell the reading in your own words.

Choice B: Write about someone you know who has high levels of lead in their body.

Choice C: Do you think you or your child could be harmed by lead? Why or why not?
