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Orlando Parenting Examiner

Button batteries reason behind Chuck E Cheese recall

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Last week the US Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a voluntary recall of Chuck E Cheese Light-up Rings and 120,000 Star Glasses imported from China by CEC Entertainment, Inc., of Irving, Texas. Although no deaths have occurred, there have been two reported incidents involving the Light-Up Rings. One case involved a child swallowing a battery, the other involved a child inserting a battery into his nostril. There are no reported incidents involving the Star Glasses.

The items were sold at Chuck E Cheese's Restaurants from April 2009 through June 2010 (Light-up Rings) and April through August 2010 (Star Glasses). Chuck E Cheese has [locations](#) in the Orlando area on International Drive, Colonial Drive, at Waterford Lakes on Alafaya Trail and on State Road 436 in Altamonte Springs.

According to the official press release by the [CPSC](#), "If crushed or pulled apart, the plastic casing can break into small pieces and possibly expose the batteries, posing an ingestion hazard to children. If ingested, the batteries may be damaging to either the stomach, intestine, esophagus or nasal mucus membrane." In a related [Associated Press](#) article, it was reported that in addition to being a choking hazard, button batteries can trigger a chemical process when they lodge there that can burn through tissue within just a few hours.

[WebMD](#) also noted a study, published in the September issue of *Archives of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery*, where researchers reviewed the medical charts of 10 pediatric patients who had swallowed button batteries (also called disc batteries). Five patients had symptoms of ingestion or were found coughing and two patients complained of a sore throat and admitted to swallowing a foreign object. Any child who is suspected of swallowing a foreign object should get immediate medical attention.



Button, or disc, batteries are behind the recent Chuck E Cheese toy recall.
Photo: CPSC.gov



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