

# Five “What were they thinking, or were they?” Products Recalled in 2003

1. **Down will come baby, mattress platform, mattress, crib hardware, and all**  
*Gerry and Evenflo Portable Wood Cribs:*



**Why:** There have been numerous reports of the mattress support platform and mattress falling through the crib to the floor.

**KID consensus:** “Down will come baby cradle and all” should remain song lyrics not reality. *Mandatory safety testing would ensure that portable cribs are as safe as full sized cribs- including being able to hold a baby’s weight.*

2. **Lead paint promotes learning?**  
*Lamaze Activity Toys:*



**Why:** Learning Curve, the manufacturer of Lamaze toys, states that the toys help baby develop his senses, motor skills and cognitive thinking, however their activity toys were covered in lead paint, which is scientifically proven to cause learning disabilities, hearing problems, and growth retardation.

**KID consensus:** Ironic, lead hazard would seem to reverse any cognitive gains. *Mandatory safety testing prior to sale would ensure products meet current standards.*

3. **Faulty children’s flotation device uses “sink or swim” teaching method**  
*Swimways Corporation’s Sandy Claws Swim Trainers:*



**Why:** The strap that secures the child to the flotation device detaches, releasing the child into the water.

**KID consensus:** Releasing an unsuspecting child who can’t swim into the water is probably not the best swim training technique. *Mandatory safety testing would provide parents and caregivers the comfort of knowing they can depend on their children’s products.*

4. **Toy to encourage standing doesn’t stand itself**  
*Playskool Magic Start Crawl ‘n Stand Toys*



**Why:** The toy was designed to encourage crawling babies to pull themselves up and stand, however when a baby pulls him or herself up the toy tips over “striking falling babies in the head, face or neck.”

**KID consensus:** Encouragement should result in a reward not a concussion. *Mandatory safety testing would ensure safe durable toys.*

5. **Smiley Face Nightlight meant to calm fears, explodes**  
*Trisonic Nightlights:*



**Why:** There have been reports of the nightlight exploding, as well as posing a serious hazard of electrocution, electric shock, burn and fire hazard.

**KID consensus:** If you weren’t scared of the dark before... *Mandatory safety testing would prevent products like this from entering the market.*