

Hello,

Please stop using water beads as a sensory toy immediately.

These Water Beads are sold under various brand names such as Orbeez, Giraffe, Chuckle and Roar, Marvel Beads, among others. While Water Beads are currently being marketed and sold as children's toys used to aid in sensory development, these products were originally sold as agricultural products (to be placed in soil to promote soil absorption and in flower vases). "Non toxic", "eco friendly", "bio degradable" are buzz words and without context are essentially meaningless. The term "non-toxic" is shockingly unregulated. Using water beads with your child can put them at serious risk of injury.

Research has shown age restriction and caregiver observation are not an effective ways to prevent water bead ingestion from occurring, as nearly half of the reported incidents occurred in school-aged children, with 30% occurring while the children were at school. Older children, toddlers, infants, and pets in the home may unknowingly ingest or aspirate the water beads without their parents knowing. Water beads are often mistaken by children as candy. When completely hydrated, water beads bounce like super balls and are nearly transparent; when they dehydrate, they shrink to the size of a pinhead, making them even harder to spot.

Thank you for allowing me to be apart of keeping your child safe.

If you suspect a child has ingested water beads, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY!

Do not wait for symptoms to develop!

Signs and symptoms your child has swallowed water beads may include:

- Coughing/gagging
- Drooling
- Trouble swallowing
- Breathing faster, harder, or a consistent whistle noise with breathing
- Pain, discomfort
- Anxiousness
- Vomiting stomach contents or blood
- Throat pain
- Abdominal pain
- Chest pain
- Bloating
- Not eating
- Lethargy/ fatigue
- Red Dermatitis rash on face, around mouth or on hands
- Hiccups
- Trouble sleeping (waking up often or sleeping more)
- Fussy, but able to be settled by caregivers
- Increased nursing frequency
- Decrease in weight
- Mild hypotonia
- Weakness

Each case of water bead ingestion is unique and should be assessed by a medical professional. Water bead ingestion can be very dangerous as the beads expand from the water in our bodies. Since these accidents can happen so quickly, caregivers might not be aware that something is wrong.



**That
Water
Bead
Lady**

Water beads have been shown to cause severe injuries to children...

- Dermatitis Rash
- Nasal cavity damage
- Hearing loss
- Lung damage
- Asphyxiation
- Intestinal obstruction
- Exposure to toxic chemicals
- Seizure
- Infection
- Sepsis
- Toxic encephalopathy
- Brain injury
- Death