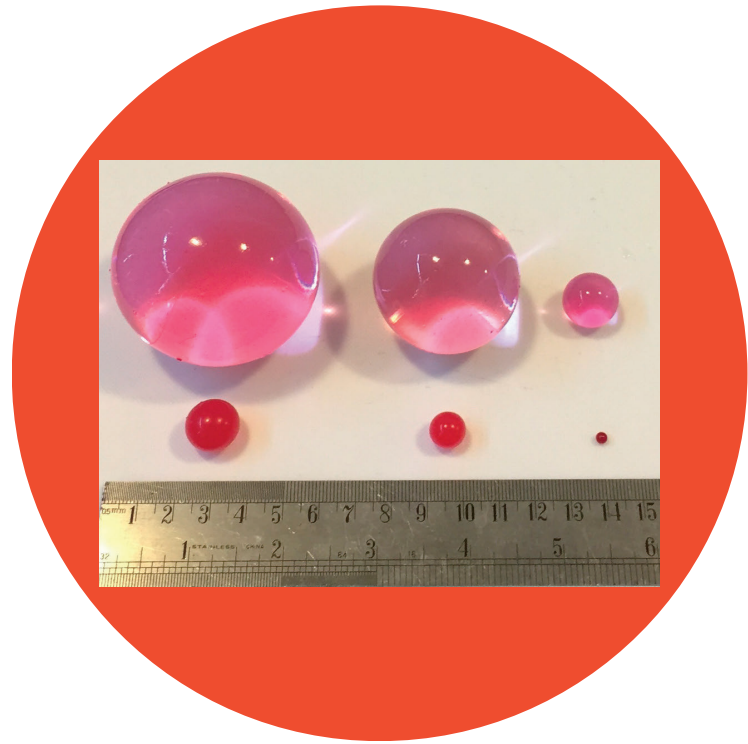




Safety Alert: Water Beads Can Be Deadly If Swallowed



What are Water Beads?

Water beads look harmless – almost like candy – but can be deadly to babies and small children if ingested; and can lead to internal injuries and even death if left undetected. Water beads are small, water-absorbing, often colorful balls of super absorbent polymer and can grow 100X their original size when exposed to water. Please note: Water beads are marketed as sensory toys for children.



What Parents & Caregivers Need to Know:

Dry water beads can be the size of a pinhead, making them nearly undetectable if dropped on the floor or spilled in a playroom. Ingested water beads can continue to grow inside the body. This can cause severe discomfort, vomiting, dehydration, intestinal blockages and life-threatening injuries, and surgery may be required to remove the water beads.



Warning

Remove these products from any environment with small children (3 years old and younger). We urge childcare centers, camps, and schools to avoid these products entirely. If you suspect your child has swallowed a water bead or inserted a water bead into their ear or nose, seek medical treatment right away. If swallowed there can be severe consequences, including grave internal injuries, lifelong health impacts and death.



Safety Tips

Remove Water Beads from any environment where small children (3 years old and younger) may live or visit. Do not allow children to play with water beads unsupervised. Water beads can easily scatter, roll, and become lost in the home and can be ingested in the dehydrated state.

**In Case of Emergency: Call the National Poison Help Line at
800-222-1222, 24 hours a day.**

